

City of Sequim and Port Angeles For-Hire Vehicles codes

City of Sequim

Definitions: only references For-Hire vehicles, such as taxicabs. Does not regulate limousine, charter party carriers of passengers and excursion service carriers. Or non-profit corporation providing transportation services for compensation solely to elderly or handicap persons.

City of Port Angeles

Definitions: 9 separate categories of definitions.

- Digital network- means an internet-enabled platform or application used to connect passengers with TNC Drivers.
- For-Hire Driver- any person in physical control of a for-hire vehicle.
- For-Hire Vehicle- taxicabs and TNC vehicles. Names exclusions: such as buses, ride-share vehicles, limousine carriers, vehicles for non-profit providers solely for elderly or handicapped, vehicles used by auto transport companies, vehicles licensed under charter party or excursion service carriers, vehicles used for courtesy transport at no charge and ambulance services
- For-Hire Vehicle Company- a person or entity that represents or owns for-hire vehicles.
- Taxi or Taxicabs- chauffeur -driven vehicle
- Taxicab Company- any entity operating one or more taxicabs regardless of the legal form of the entity.
- TNC Driver- an individual who uses a personal vehicle to provide transportation services.
- TNC Vehicle- personal vehicle used by a TNC Driver to provide transportation services.
- Transportation Network Company or TNC- entity that uses a digital network to connect passengers to TNC Drivers who use personal vehicles to transport passengers for compensation.

City of Sequim

Business License - No person will operate or permit a for-hire vehicle owned or controlled by him/her to be operated as a for-hire vehicle within the corporate limits of the city without first obtained a city business license.

City of Port Angeles

Business License- It is a violation of this chapter for any for-hire vehicle company to operate in the City without a current and valid City of Port Angeles business license. The City Clerk may issue a for-hire vehicle company business license, provided that the applicant submits an affidavit sworn under penalty of perjury, on a form provided by the City. For-hire vehicle company will be effective for one year. The annual for-hire business license fee is set forth in a separate code and must be paid in full at the time of submitting all initial and renewal applications.

City of Sequim

Registration Application- In addition to other required information for a business license, an applicant must provide the following information.

- Full information concerning the ownership, including vehicle registration, the number and classification of vehicles and the name under which the applicant intends to operate.
- Distinguishing color scheme, dress or design, including any monogram or insignia intended to be used upon the vehicle, and must not resemble any police vehicle.
- Rates to be charged.

City of Port Angeles

Was not able to find any clear definitions of registration application in their code.

City of Sequim

Inspection of Vehicles- Before commencing, each registrant shall file with the clerk a certificate of inspection showing all vehicles have been inspected by an ASE mechanic. Proof of inspection must be conspicuously posted in the vehicle.

Equipment- Every vehicle licensed must have approved fire extinguisher and first aid kit, lawful seatbelts or passenger restraints for all passengers, lawful car seats and booster seats for children and infants. All vehicles operating as taxicabs must have illuminated taxi sign or roof light, which will always be illuminated while the taxicab is in operation.

City of Port Angeles

Each for-hire vehicle will pass an inspection prior to commencing services in the City and annually thereafter, by a qualified mechanic. A qualified mechanic means any person who works in a automotive repair facility and have has received certification from National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence or other nationally recognized automotive repair professional certification organization. Inspect at a minimum and keep copies of all inspections:

- Foot brakes
- Parking brakes
- Steering mechanism
- Windshield
- Rear window and other glass
- Windshield wipers
- Headlights
- Taillights
- Turn indicator lights
- Stop lights
- Front seat adjustment mechanism
- Doors (open, close, lock)
- Horn
- Speedometer
- Bumpers
- Muffler and exhaust system
- Condition of tires, including tread depths
- Interior and exterior mirrors
- Safety belts for driver and passengers

City of Sequim

Operational regulations- operation of for-hire vehicles will be governed by the following regulations.

- No-fire hire stand, or zone may be operated without permission of the owner of all adjoining premises.
- No registrant shall permit more than three for-hire vehicles to stand or wait at the same time in a stand or zone.
- Upon request by any peace officer, every person engaged in the business of transporting passengers for hire must present all information regarding the address of the house or place from which passenger was drive. As well as any descriptions, names and addressed, if known. Must maintain records of the number, location and length of trip made each day and maintain the records for at least 2 years.
- Must not be in physical control of a for-hire vehicle under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs.

- Every person engaged in operating for-hire vehicles must maintain a business address and mailing address where the owner can accept mail and a business telephone in working order that will be answered during business hours.
- Drivers of for-hire vehicles employed to carry passengers to definite point must take the most direct route possible that will carry passengers safely and expeditiously.

City of Port Angeles

TNC operational limitations-

- While in service in the City, TNC drivers will only transport passengers who have arranged transportation through a TNC's Digital Network and will not solicit or accept street hails.
- While in service in the City, each TNC vehicle will display removable trade dress or marks which are visible within fifty feet and associate the vehicle with a licensed TNC company.
- TNC Digital Network or website will display for the passengers the first name and photo of the driver as well as the make, model and license plate number of the vehicle.
- TNC Digital Network or website will display for the passenger the applicable rates being charged and options to receive an estimated fare before the passenger enters the vehicle.

City of Sequim

For-Hire vehicle operator's license (Includes all sections of the code pertaining to operator and penalties section)- No person will be permitted to obtain a for-hire vehicle operator's license for driving unless the following minimum requirements are met:

- Possession of a valid WA DOL.
- Having been a licensed for at least three consecutive years prior to date of application.
- The ability to speak, read and write in English.
- Not be addicted to the use of intoxicating liquor or drugs within two years prior to application.
- Not have been convicted of a felony, or of operating a motor vehicle under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs.
- Not have been convicted of three or more moving violations during a one-year period during the five years prior to application.
- All persons are required to obtain an initial for-hire vehicle operator's license.
- For-hire vehicle operator's licensees who ceases to be actively employed as a for-hire vehicle operator for more than 90 calendar days are required to reapply for vehicle operator's license, for reasons other than illness or injury.
- In addition to all other information required by the City Clerk, the following information will be required; full name, address, residence, age, height, weight, color of eyes and hair, place of birth, length of time they have resided in the state, whether a citizen or not, whether previously licensed as a driver or chauffeur, if license has been revoked. Sign and sworn by the applicant and filed with the Chief of Police as permanent record. Must submit to fingerprinting, photographing, and criminal and driver's records search by the police department.
- The Chief of Police will make a recommendation to the Clerk or designee within 10 working days of the filing of a complete application or the return to the criminal and driver's records check, to issue or not to issue for-hire operator's license. In arriving at the recommendation, the Chief of Police, is authorized to investigate to assist in determining whether the qualifications for the driving of for-hire vehicles are met and issuance of license would be consistent with the public health, safety and welfare.
- The fee for obtaining the initial for-hire vehicle operators license will be established by resolution and not subject to proration.

- License will be good for the period of one year beginning Jan. 1 of the year of application and expiring Dec. 31st. The licensee will submit an abstract of driving record issued by the State of Washington of Licensing annually, on or before Jan. 1st. Fee for renewal is the same as the newly issued license fee and not subject to proration.
- Each driver will wear the for-hire vehicle operator's license prominently displayed on an outer garment and upon request of any police officer exhibit their license for inspection.
- The Clerk or designee may, on the recommendation of the Chief of police issue a temp. for-hire vehicle operator's license, pending the completion of the investigation required, effective only until the application is finally acted upon by the Chief of Police and not long then 90 days.
- No for-hire vehicle operator's license will be transferable.
- In addition to grounds supporting denial or revocation of for-hire vehicle operator's license in any other chapter of this code, may also be denied or revoked for the following:
 - Any applicant who has omitted to disclose any material fact or has provided a misleading statement.
 - Any applicant or licensee who has become disqualified under SMC 5.28.70 and 5.28.090 or any other state law applicable to for-hire vehicles.
 - Any for-hire business or operator who persistently violates operating standards. Persistently means three or more separate violations within one calendar year.
 - Any for-hire vehicle business applicant or licensee fails to report the disqualifications of a driver to the City Clerk and the Chief of Police.

The procedure for denial or revocation for a for-hire vehicle operator's license will be the same as set forth in SMC 5.04.140.
- All violations of this chapter, except for operating for-hire business without registration, will be punishable as a class 2 civil infraction in chapter 7.80 RCW. Operating a for-hire business without registration without registering will be punishable as a class 1 civil infraction. Infractions will be issued to the driver and to the registered business owner and each day of business is conducted is deemed a separate violation.

City of Port Angeles

For-Hire driver requirements (includes revocation, suspension and penalties section from code)-

- All driver must be at least 21 and possess a valid driver's license, proof of motor vehicle registration and proof of current automobile liability insurance that meets the requirements in this chapter.
- Each for-hire vehicle company will maintain accurate and up-to-date records for each driver operating within the City. Records must include the driver's name, age, address, SSN, criminal history, driver's license, motor vehicle registration and automobile insurance.
- Prior to permitting a person to operate as a for-hire driver, and biennially, each for-hire company shall conduct or have a third-party conduct, a criminal background check report for each person. Must include search of no less than seven years of database history, unless prohibited by law, in which case the search the duration permitted by law. Criminal background checks must include local, state and national criminal history. Any person who is a sex offender registry or who has been convicted of driving under the influence of alcohol or controlled substance, felony fraud, sexual offenses, acts of violence, acts of terror, or use of a motor vehicle to commit a felony will not be permitted to act as a for-hire driver. The company or its agent will maintain records of criminal background checks for a period of two years. For purposes of this section, the term "conviction" includes, convictions, bail forfeitures and other final adverse findings.
- A for-hire company will revoke a driver's authority to operate as a driver for their company if it finds that the standards set forth are no longer being met. A company will only reinstate his or her authority upon findings by the company that all standards are again being met.
- The City Clerk or review on Hearing Examiner, may suspend, revoke or refuse issue of for-hire vehicle license or applicant has violated any of the provisions set forth in the charter. A violation includes any and all failures to meet or maintain any of the requirements or qualification and/or making of a materially false statement. The decision to suspend, revoke or refuse to issue a license may be appealed to the Hearing Examiner.

- Upon violation of this chapter, the City Clerk may assess a penalty of \$250.00 per violation, up to a maximum of \$10,000.00. The failure of licensee to pay a penalty assessment automatically suspends the license until it is paid. The City Clerk, City Treasurer and their designee are hereby authorized to use any unlawful means to collect penalties assessed under this chapter, including the use of a collection agency.

City of Sequim

Fare (includes three sections of the code)-

- Each person conducting business of transporting passengers for hire must post in a conspicuous place in every vehicle, the schedule of fares.
- Any for-hire driver who charges any passenger a fare higher than provided in the schedule of fares filed with the City will be subject to penalties set forth in SMC 5.28.190.
- It is unlawful for any person to refuse to pay the regular fare for-hire vehicle, after having hired them.

City of Port Angeles

Nothing mentioning fares that the driver would be collecting, only mentions using the app or website will display rates and option to receive estimated fares before entering the TNC vehicle.

City of Sequim

Insurance requirements- Each for-hire service will maintain appropriate insurance coverage as required by the State of Washington.

City of Port Angeles

Insurance requirements- The for-hire vehicle company will comply with the automobile liability insurance requirements contained in chapter 48.177 RCW as enacted.

Additional sections in City of Port Angeles code:

Registered agent required- For-hire vehicle company will maintain a registered agent for service of process in the State of Washington. Name, telephone number and physical address of registered agent must be submitted to the City of Port Angeles at the time of license application, all changes to registered agent must be made in writing.

Audit- No more than twice per license year, the City can audit the for-hire vehicle company's record to review compliance. Each audit will be limited to records relating to no more than twenty percent of randomly selected for-hire drivers, up to a max of 20 drivers, that have operated in the City within the last 30 days. If the audit reveals discrepancies in the records review, the City reserves the right to audit all records related to for-hire drivers operating in the City of Port Angeles.

The audit will occur at Port Angeles City Hall, provided, that the City may in its own discretion agree to an alternative location.

The City may require the for-hire vehicle company to produce records directly related to an active investigation of a specific allegation of a violation.

For-hire business requirements- The for-hire vehicle company or its agent will maintain accurate and up-to-date records for all drivers that provide services in the City. The records will include the driver's name, age, address, criminal history,

driver's license, motor vehicle registration, vehicle safety inspection records, proof of at least minimum automobile liability insurance coverage and the number, location and length of trips made each day. The for-hire company shall implement a zero driving under the influence of alcohol or any other substance that impairs driving ability. Will provide the zero-tolerance policy on its website, as well as the procedures to report a driver whom the passenger reasonably suspected was under the influence during the ride. The company will immediately suspend a driver upon receipt of complaint alleging a violation. The suspension will last duration of the investigation.

Nondiscrimination- For-hire company will adopt a policy of nondiscrimination based on destination, race, color, national origin, religious belief or affiliation, sex, disability, age, sexual orientation, or gender identity with respect to riders and potential riders.

Drivers will comply with all applicable laws regarding nondiscrimination against riders and potential riders based on destination, race, color, national origin, religious belief or affiliation, sex, disability, age, sexual orientation, or gender identity.

For-hire drivers will comply with all applicable laws regarding service animals.

For-hire drivers will not impose additional charges for providing services to persons with physical disabilities because of their disability.

Enforcement- The City Clerk will have the administrative authority to implement and enforce this chapter, and may adopt rules and regulation for its administration, not inconsistent with this chapter. This provision will not be constructed to abrogate or limit the jurisdiction of the Police Department to enforce any provision of this chapter or any other city ordinance relating to motor vehicle or operation of for-hire vehicles.