

## Subchapter 15. Taxicabs

### SECTION

#### 1521. Purpose

It is hereby declared that the business of operating motor vehicles for the carriage of passengers for hire along the public highways of this city is one affected with a public interest; that the rapid increase of the carriage of passengers for hire by motor vehicles and the lack of effective regulation have increased the dangers and hazards on said public highways; and that much more stringent regulations are imperative to the end that said highways may be rendered safer for public use, congestion of traffic minimized, and the motor vehicle accident rate decreased, and the use of said highways for the transportation of passengers for hire restricted to the extent required by the necessities of the public and the various agencies within the city for the transportation of passengers for hire adjusted and correlated so that said highways may serve the best interests of the people of this city. To secure such ends is the purpose of this subchapter.

Cross references. City council powers,  
see city charter section 25 (19).  
Financial responsibility, see 23  
V. S. A. 841 - 848.  
Municipal regulation, see 214  
V. S. A. 2031, 2032.

#### 1522. Definitions

A taxicab, for the purposes of this subchapter, shall include any motor vehicle, regularly used in the business of carrying passengers for hire, with or without baggage, on the public highways of the city, and which receives or discharges passengers within the city limits, or advertised for such use, including motor vehicles operated for hire in connection with a livery business, and a jitney as defined in section 4 of Title 23, Vermont Statutes Annotated, but shall not include any such vehicle while being used in interstate or foreign commerce, or a vehicle used in their business by common carriers as defined in section 235 of Title 30, Vermont Statutes Annotated.

A taxidriver is the operator of a taxicab.

## **SECTION**

### **1523. License - Prohibited activities**

- (a) No person shall advertise for use as a taxicab or use or operate as a taxicab upon any public highway within the city, any motor vehicle, or cause the same to be so operated, unless such motor vehicle is licensed for such use as hereinafter provided, or use or advertise for use as a taxicab on any public highway within the city, any motor vehicle which has not been inspected and certified to be safe for such use and to comply in its condition, and equipment with all requirements of law as hereinafter provided, or which to his knowledge is not safe for use and does not comply with such requirements, or the license for which is suspended.
- (b) No person shall operate or act as the operator or driver of any taxicab upon any public highway within the city, unless licensed so to do as hereinafter provided, nor while his taxidriver's license or the license for such taxicab is suspended, nor while such taxicab to his knowledge is not safe and does not comply in its condition and equipment with all requirements of law.

### **1524. Fees; grounds for rejection; transfer**

- (a) The fee for a taxidriver license for an owner of a vehicle to personally operate the same within the city as a taxicab, shall be \$2, and the fee for a taxidriver license to operate any taxicab within the city shall be \$5. No such license shall be granted to any person, who, in the judgment of the city council, because of disability, physical or mental defects, bad character or bad habits, is not a suitable person to have such license.
- (b) The fee for a taxicab license shall be \$10 for each vehicle to be operated as a taxicab within the city. A taxicab license may be transferred to another vehicle without payment of another fee, on proper application by the same owner to the city clerk.