

Updated: July 1, 2009

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE TAXICAB RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE CAMBRIDGE LICENSE COMMISSION

I. SUBJECT: Credit Card Regulations and Equipment Mounting Standards

In order to assist the implementation of mandatory Credit Card processing in Licensed Cambridge Hackney Carriages the Hackney License Commission has compiled the following rules which affect the implementation. Also below are the License Commission standards for mounting and installation.

Rule 1. Be Equipped for Credit Card Processing:

1. Effective October 1, 2009 all taxicabs shall be equipped with an electronic credit card processing capability. Such equipment shall allow the passenger to swipe the card in the rear compartment of the taxicab without handing the card to the Driver. Such equipment shall list fare, tolls, fees, and tips separately for processing purposes. Such equipment shall have the ability to electronically authorize the transaction in a timely manner. Such equipment will provide a printed receipt that includes:
 - a. Cambridge Licensed Taxi Number,
 - b. Date,
 - c. Time
 - d. Charge Amount and
 - e. Hackney Carriage Unit Taxi Hot Line: 617-349-6140
2. All Hackney Carriages shall have a functioning credit card reader at all times. If a Hackney Carriage does not have a functioning credit card reader, it shall be deemed unfit for service as a taxi.
 - a. Credit Card Processing Fee: Medallion Owner, (Lessor, Manager or Radio Service) may charge a Hackney Carriage Driver a maximum 6% fee for processing Credit Card Transactions. The Medallion Owner (or Lessee in a Medallion-only lease) may not charge any fee for that portion of the fare due to tolls, tips, or airport fees. If the Medallion Owner (or Lessee in a Medallion-only lease) chooses a source of the required equipment that charges less than a 6% fee, only that amount actually paid by the Medallion Owner or Lessee in a Medallion-only lease) may be charged to the Hackney Carriage Driver. If the owner chooses a source for the required equipment that charges more than 6% said Medallion Owner (or Lessee in a Medallion-only lease) shall be responsible for any credit card processing fee charged that is greater than 6% of the fare.

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- b. Credit Card Processing Fee: No Hackney Carriage Driver shall refuse to accept a credit card as payment for a fare after October 1, 2009 and no Driver may demand a fee above the fare in return for accepting a credit card payment. (Massachusetts General Law's Chapter 140D sec. 28a).
- c. Credit Card Processing Fee: Effective October 1, 2009 no cab Licensed Hackney Carriage may belong to a Radio Association or Dispatch Service which charges a processing fee for that portion of a credit card charge or voucher designated as Tolls, Airport Fee, or Tip.
- d. Be outfitted with an approved taximeter as defined in writing by the License Commission. Any such approval shall be in writing and shall be stored in the Medallion File. If a Hackney Carriage does not have a fully functioning taximeter, it shall be deemed unfit for service as a Hackney Carriage. The taximeter must meet the following requirements:
 - 1. The taximeter must be officially sealed by the City of Cambridge Department of Weights and Measures.
 - 2. All taxicabs must have taximeters that dispense printed receipts containing the following information:
 - a. Cambridge license taxi number;
 - b. Date-Trip number;
 - c. Times (start and stop);
 - d. Mileage traveled (distance per trip);
 - e. Extras;
 - f. Totals;
 - g. Hackney Carriage Unit Taxi Hot Line: 617-349-6140
 - 3. All taxicabs must have a taximeter capable of gathering, storing and retrieving the following information:
 - a. Medallion number; and
 - b. Summary of service for a one (1) year period that includes:
 - i. Total trips;
 - ii. Total fare miles; and
 - iii. Total number of fares

License Commission Hackney Standards:

All Credit Cards processing equipment shall be linked to the taximeter in such a manner that the fare amount recorded on the meter is automatically recorded by the credit card processing equipment.

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The requirement for a receipt dispensing taximeter shall be considered satisfied regardless of whether the receipt is physically printed by the taximeter or by the linked Credit Card Processing equipment, provided that the other requirements of the section with regard to information gathering are met.

Mounting:

The passenger interface of the Credit Card processing equipment shall be mounted on the partition or back of front seat either:

1. Inset into the center of the metal portion of the partition in such a way that no portion of the equipment projects more than $\frac{1}{4}$ " beyond the rear face of the partition, and the rear and sides of the inset shall be lined with metal in at least the same gauge as the rest of the metal portion of the partition.

OR

2. Mounted on the Lexan portion of the partition behind the front passenger seat headrest in such a manner it does not interfere with the cash payment opening.

OR

3. Mounted on the back of the front seat on driver side seat headrest in such a manner it does not interfere with the cash payment opening.

The Credit Card processing equipment and mounts shall be of sufficient durability that they cannot be dislodged, vandalized or rendered inoperable by barehanded strikes.

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II. TAXIMETER RATES-PROPOSED INCREASE TO TAKE EFFECT OCTOBER 1, 2009
(See Page 48 of Rules Booklet to be amended)

METER RATES

\$	5.20	1 st Mile
\$	3.20	EA. ADDITIONAL MILE
\$.40	EA. 1/8 MILE
\$	28.00	PER HR. Wait time after 5 minutes
\$		Tunnel & Bridge Fees Including Tunnel Exit Toll

FLAT RATES

1. RIDES OVER 10 MILES
2. HOTELS TO AIRPORT (TOLLS & TIP INCL.)

Flat Rates for Hotels to be increased by the same percentage of meter rate increase or approximately 10%. Page 45 of Rules Booklet.

Discussion around revamping flat rates to cities and towns to allow rides over 15 miles instead of 10 miles may still be discussed and reviewed. See separate Flat Rate Booklet.

III.

Proposed Amendment to Rules Booklet Article XV. Rule 2- Vintage of Vehicle (Page 18 of Rules Booklet):

Effective October 1, 2009, and thereafter, no vehicle shall be approved for use as a Cambridge taxicab when the vehicle begins its sixth year. The assembly line completion date has no standing. The year appearing in the vehicle title and/or the RMV registration shall determine the vehicle date of origin. (All the paragraphs that follow shall stay the same.....)

Except that anyone requesting to use another vehicle other than a sedan, such as a van or SUV, such vehicle may not be more than four years old under the same standards for vintage as above.

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IV. Proposed Amendment to Rule 16 Of Rules Booklet (Page 23)-Non-Customary Type of Vehicle:

The use of a vehicle other the customary sedan, such as a van, or SUV, may be allowed by the License Commission so long as it is no older than 4 yrs old.

V. Proposed Amendment to Rule 10, Page 16 of Rules Booklet: Taxi School-

In addition to the requirement for new drivers, all existing drivers who have not attended the school, shall be required to go to the Taxi School for one refresher, retraining class, as prescribed by the Taxi School Board, in order to renew their hackney driver's license, effective January 1, 2010.

VI. Proposed Amendment to Rule 3, Page 14 of Rules Booklet: Owner's Failure to Train Properly:

In addition each medallion owner shall submit on a regular basis, a list of drivers, lessees, and sublessees that operate his vehicle, with contact telephone numbers and addresses. A copy of every lease, sublease or other driving arrangement must be submitted to the License Commission.