



New South Wales Branch
PO Box 277
HURSTVILLE NSW 2220
Tel: 0412 880861
Fax: 02 9579 2333
Email: hughmc@artionsw.com.au
ABN: 93149961882

1 April 2020

MEDIA RELEASE

Modifications Announced to NSW's Heavy Vehicle Competency Based Assessment Program Due to Coronavirus

Service NSW has announced modifications to heavy vehicle driver assessments conducted in NSW via the Heavy Vehicle Competency Based Assessment Program.

Australian Road Transport Industrial Organisation NSW Secretary/Treasurer, Hugh McMaster, said ARTIO NSW was asked to seek clarification on how and if assessments would be conducted due to the coronavirus (COVID-19).

"This is because licence assessors need to be in the cab in order to assess the competence of the licence holder", Mr McMaster said.

"Although NSW has postponed driver testing across NSW for a minimum period of two months due to COVID-19, this postponement does not automatically apply to annual assessments for heavy vehicle licence holders in NSW.

"Service NSW says that heavy vehicle drivers with an urgent need for a driving test to be conducted can apply for a priority request.

"It says requests will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

"Drivers will have to demonstrate that they need to retain a heavy vehicle licence to support the freight network and supply chain.

"Service NSW says a letter from the driver's employer confirming this would be required.

"It also says a priority test may also be made available if a doctor or police officer has notified Transport for NSW that a test is required to determine if a driver should continue to hold a heavy vehicle driving licence."

"In NSW, holders of an MC licence are required to undergo an annual driving test once they reach the age of 70.

"Other heavy vehicle licence holders from LR to HC must do likewise annually from the age of 80."

ENDS

Further Information: Hugh McMaster, Secretary/Treasurer, ARTIO NSW Branch
Tel: 0412 880 861