

Minibus permits:

ALL groups including children's and youth groups who operate (own, borrow or hire), a minibus require a Standard Bus Permit. They are issued so that voluntary groups can charge or accept a form of remuneration for providing transport for their own members, without having to comply with the full PSV operator licensing or PCV driver licensing requirements.

- If you hire a mini-bus from a local Community Transport operator and you are a member of that CT, then they will have the necessary permit and you do not need to get one. If you hire from CT and are NOT a member then you will need to get the correct Section 19 permit.
- If you hire a mini-bus from a commercial operator and they supply the driver, you don't need a permit, but if you supply the driver, you do need a permit.
- If you borrow a mini bus and make any kind of charge, hidden or otherwise - you need a permit.
- If you borrow a mini-bus from say Scouts and they have a permit YOU STILL NEED YOUR OWN PERMIT as permits are issued to groups and not to mini-buses.
- You need 1 permit per mini-bus; so if you take 3 mini-buses on a trip, you need 3 permits.
- If you own your own mini-bus (lucky you) you need a permit

Your insurance WILL be invalid without the correct mini-bus permit. It comes in two parts, one is similar to a tax disc. Both are needed and should be displayed in the mini-bus.

Standard Minibus permits cost £11 are valid for five years and have the expiry date written on the permit. It is the responsibility of the individual group to renew these minibus permits. Permits issued under the previous scheme (with. no expiry date) **ceased to be valid after 6th April 2014.**

Each group will need to apply for their own permit and they are not transferrable. The permit must be displayed in whichever vehicle you are driving at the time. Please note that if you do not display the minibus permit in the windscreen, as this is an Operator's License this may lead to prosecution if not displayed.

You will need to purchase one Standard Bus Permit per vehicle. So if you hire 3 minibuses you need to apply for 3 permits. These permits can then be transferrable to other minibus to another if you are hiring them.

The qualification that you need to drive a minibus is a full driving licence with a D1 entitlement or without D1, have held their licence for over 2 years but cannot tow a trailer. Further information is available at Gov.uk or nidirect.

Consider MIDAS training: this is the Minibus Driver Awareness Scheme, organised by the Community Transport Association U.K. (CTA) which promotes a nationally recognised standard for the assessment and training of minibus drivers. It is a membership based scheme that has been designed to enhance minibus driving standards and promote the safer operation of minibuses. More info can be found at ctauk.org

Please note that from 10 February 1997 ALL minibuses irrespective of age, when carrying 3 or more children have to be fitted with seatbelts in FORWARD FACING SEATS. The MINIMUM requirement is to have a lap belt fitted to each seat used by a child aged over 3.

Useful links:

[Section 19 & 22 permits](#)
[Permit Application Form](#)

For additional advice, the Community Transport Association (CTA) have factsheets on all aspects of minibuses. Should you require advice relating to driver training or minibus safety, further information may also be obtained on the CTA Advice Line 0845 130 6195 or ctauk.org