

§ 1017.1. Definitions.

The following words and terms, when used in this chapter, have the following meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

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Wheelchair accessible taxicab—A motor vehicle that meets the requirements of § 1017.8 (c) (relating to wheelchair accessible taxicabs) of this subpart.

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§ 1017.8. Wheelchair accessible taxicabs.

(a) Medallion designation.

On or before _____ (Editor's Note: The blank refers to a date 30 days after the effective date of adoption of this proposed rulemaking.) the Authority will designate 300 medallions as wheelchair accessible medallions as provided in subsection (b) through random selection. Within 90 days of selection, wheelchair accessible medallions may only be attached to wheelchair accessible vehicles.

(b) Method of medallion designation.

(1) The random selection process required by subsection (a) will be conducted by the Authority at a public meeting of a committee of the Board and will consist of the extraction of 300 identically shaped and colored paper cards from an elevated container. The container will hold only 1600 cards upon which every medallion number will be individually identified. The 300 extracted paper cards will identify the 300 medallions that will be restricted to the use of wheelchair accessible taxicabs.

(2) One paper card at a time will be selected, as provide in paragraph (1), by one member of the Board or the City of the First Class Taxicab and Limousine Advisory Committee, as provided in section 5702 of the act (relating to City of the First Class Taxicab and Limousine Advisory Committee), in the discretion of the chair of the committee of the Board.

(3) The random selection process, including the placement of the 1600 paper cards in the selection container may be supervised by the chair of the City of the First Class Taxicab and Limousine Advisory Committee.

(4) The Authority may conduct more than one random selection process.

(c) Partial-rights taxicab designation.

On or before _____ (*Editor's Note: The blank refers to a date 90 days after the effective date of adoption of this proposed rulemaking.*) twenty percent of the vehicles used by each partial-rights certificate holder to provide taxicab service in Philadelphia must be wheelchair accessible taxicabs. For example, if a partial-rights certificate holder uses 10 vehicles to provide partial-rights taxicab service in Philadelphia, 2 of those vehicles must be wheelchair accessible taxicabs.

(d) Wheelchair accessible taxicab specifications.

(1) A wheelchair accessible taxicab is a vehicle that has been inspected and approved by the Authority as meeting the following requirements:

(i) The vehicle complies with the specifications set forth in the Americans with Disability Act Accessibility Specifications for Transportation Vehicles codified at 49 C.F.R. Sections 38.23, 38.25 and 38.31, as amended.

(ii) The vehicle is capable of permitting access and entry to the passenger compartment from the right side of the vehicle to and from the curb.

(iii) The vehicle provides sufficient floor space to accommodate a service animal.

(iv) If powered by a hybrid-electric power plant, the vehicle must be equipped with an appropriate device to enable persons who are blind to hear the approach of the vehicle as readily as they can hear a conventional gasoline-powered taxicab.

(2) Before entering taxicab service a wheelchair accessible taxicab must be inspected and approved by the Authority as provided in § 1017.2 (relating to preservice inspection).

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§ 1017.31. Biannual inspections by Authority.

(a) In addition to other inspections required or permitted by the act, this part or an order of the Authority, every taxicab must submit to at least two scheduled inspections by the Authority on an annual basis at a time and location designated by the Authority. Each scheduled inspection will consist of one of the following:

(1) A compliance inspection.

(2) A compliance inspection combined with a full State inspection.

(b) Beginning January 1, 2016 only wheelchair accessible vehicles will be eligible for an inspection pursuant to this part.