

**AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY
ROAD TRANSPORT (GENERAL) ACT 1999
DETERMINATION OF TAXI FARES
INSTRUMENT NO. 223 OF 2000
EXPLANATORY STATEMENT**

This instrument revokes Determination No. 115 of 1999 dated 7 April 2000 and published in the ACT Gazette No. 16 of 20 April 2000.

Section 115(1) of the Road Transport (General) Act 1999 specifies that the Minister may, by notice published in the Gazette, determine the maximum fares chargeable for the hiring of a taxi. This notice is a disallowable instrument in the Legislative Assembly.

The ACT Government to meet the price oversight requirements of the National Competition Policy referred taxi fares to the Independent Competition and Regulatory Commission (formerly the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Commission) to review taxi fares for 2000-01.

On 9 June 2000 Mr Paul Baxter, Senior Commissioner Independent Competition and Regulatory Commission handed down his Price Direction for Taxi fares for 2000-01. The Commissioner recommended that there be an average fare price increase of 7.71%.

In addition the Commissioner has endorsed a 7.85 percent net GST increase. This amount reflects the underlying cost savings that will be achieved by the taxi industry and thereby dampens the full impact of the introduction of the 10 percent GST.

The average fare price increase and the GST are reflected in the schedule to the Determination and are consistent with Schedule 1 of the Price Direction.

Flagfall and kilometre rate categories have been amended to reflect common hiring practices. The previous high occupancy surcharge for the carriage of a group of 6 or more passengers to a common hiring destination has been deleted and replaced with a set flagfall and kilometre rate. The previous surcharge was based on the maximum fare as a single hiring rate plus fifty per cent (50%) of that rate. The new flagfall and kilometre rate reflects a 50% increase on the standard single hiring rate.

The new fares are to apply from 1 July 2000 to comply with the introduction of the Goods and Services Tax.

Description of matter in respect of which fare is payable	Old Fare	New Fare
Radio Bookings	\$0.60	\$0.65
Standard Taxi (single hiring)		
Flagfall	\$2.90	\$3.20
Kilometre Rate		
- For a journey commencing between 6 am and 9 pm on a day other than a Saturday, Sunday or public holiday	\$1.005	\$1.193
- For a journey commencing before 6 am or after 9 pm Monday to Friday and on a Saturday, Sunday or public holiday	\$1.160	\$1.372
Standard Taxi – (multiple hiring)		
Flagfall	\$2.25	\$2.40
Kilometre Rate		
- For a journey commencing between 6 am and 9 pm on a day other than a Saturday, Sunday or public holiday	\$0.751	\$0.863
- For a journey commencing before 6 am or after 9 pm Monday to Friday and on a Saturday, Sunday or public holiday	\$0.863	\$0.998
High Occupancy Taxi (6 or more passengers)		
Flagfall	\$2.90	\$4.80
Kilometre Rate		
- For a journey commencing between 6 am and 9 pm on a day other than a Saturday, Sunday or public holiday	\$1.507	\$1.852
- For a journey commencing before 6 am or after 9 pm Monday to Friday and on a Saturday, Sunday or public holiday	\$1.740	\$2.121
WAITING TIME (per hour)	\$24.00	\$27.00
TOLL For a journey commencing at the designated taxi rank at the Canberra International Airport where the taxi driver has paid the toll and holds the receipt issued by the Capital Airport Group. a. single hiring – the toll b. multiple hiring – for a multiple hire, the toll to be shared equally by each hirer		