

Australian Capital Territory

Road Transport (Public Passenger Services) Maximum Fares for Taxi Services Determination 2026 (No 1)

Disallowable instrument DI2026-35

made under the

Road Transport (Public Passenger Services) Act 2001, s 60 (Power to determine taxi fares)

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Section 60 (1) of the *Road Transport (Public Passenger Services) Act 2001* provides that the Minister may, in writing, determine the taxi fares and ways of calculating fares, relating to hiring or using a taxi. A determination under section 60 (1) is a disallowable instrument.

This instrument determines the ACT's maximum taxi fares.

In the ordinary course of events, maximum taxi fares are increased annually in line with the forecast Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the ACT. However, this instrument provides an additional temporary increase on top of the CPI increase to reflect the rise in fuel prices being experienced in the ACT and nationally. This additional increase recognises the direct impact fuel prices have on the taxi industry.

Forecasted CPI increases of 2.75% for 2026-2027 have been applied beginning the day after notification day of the instrument and apply as normal to flagfall, kilometre, and waiting time rates and to the lift fee. While CPI increases generally commence 1 July each year, the 2026 CPI increases have been brought forward to April to account for the rise in fuel prices in addition to further temporary increases outlined below.

Schedule 1 sets out a temporary 3.3% increase to kilometre rates and the waiting time rate for taxis to account for the rise in fuel prices, starting on the day after notification day of the instrument and ending on 30 June 2026. This increase is based on fuel prices rising by 33.33% and an assumption of 10% of the maximum fare covering fuel costs. Fuel consumption of various common taxi models was used in making this assumption based on data from the Green Vehicle Guide published by the Commonwealth Government. The waiting time rate is also increased because fuel is consumed while the taxi is idling. This temporary increase expires after 30 June 2026 and is not rolled into the fare amounts for the 2026-2027 financial year.

Any increase in maximum regulated fares in this instrument is rounded off to the nearest five cents. The increases are made to the original amounts, not the rounded amounts, before the final fare is rounded to the nearest five cents in the instrument.

CLAUSE NOTES

Clause 1 Name of instrument

This clause states that the name of the instrument is the *Road Transport (Public Passenger Services) Maximum Fares for Taxi Services Determination 2026 (No 1)*.

Clause 2 Commencement

This clause states that the instrument commences on the day after its notification day, meaning it commences the day after it is published on the ACT Legislation Register.

Clause 3 Determination

This clause states that the new maximum fares relating to the hiring or use of a taxi are outlined in columns 4 and 5 of schedule 1 to the instrument as specified by its respective date period.

Clause 4 Payment of Fare

This clause:

- (i) outlines that fares for using taxi services covered by this instrument are payable by a customer to the taxi driver; and
- (ii) establishes an exception that the lift fee is payable to the taxi driver by the ACT Government rather than the customer.

Clause 5 Revocation

This clause states that the instrument revokes the previous determination, being the *Road Transport (Public Passenger Services) Maximum Fares for Taxi Services Determination 2025 (No 2) D12025-214*.