

Tuition Requirements for the Control of Mobility Vehicles



The BHTA Code of Practice sets out the following:

8.15 Where tuition/training is necessary for safe use of a product, reasonable and fair tuition/training for its use under the conditions which the purchaser best describes as “normal” for his / her purposes must be offered prior to conclusion of a sale. If such tuition/training is declined, record must be made of that fact and the reasons given.

8.16 In particular, tuition in the control of mobility vehicles should be given at the time of purchase and/or on delivery. Tuition levels will vary according to:

- the user’s abilities and experience
- the type of vehicle
- the circumstances of use
- the kind of attendant support expected

Tuition should follow a proper assessment of needs, wishes, abilities and disabilities to enable selection of the most suitable vehicle and specification for user and circumstances. A vehicle should only be sold if the member can realistically expect the user to develop satisfactory control.

To cover the enormous variety of users’ disabilities and abilities, types of mobility vehicle and usage requirements, the table overleaf outlines the tuition requirements to be carried out in the actual area, or as a minimum, in the type of environment, in which the mobility vehicle is to be used, and including anticipated worst-case situations.

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| <u>ASSESSMENT CRITERION</u> | <u>REQUIREMENT, ASSESSED DURING TEST RIDE</u> | <u>JUSTIFIED EXEMPTION</u> |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| Eyesight | <p>Must be able to see obstacles, kerbs, moving vehicles and pedestrians well enough to avoid them consistently.</p> <p>Must compensate for any restriction in peripheral vision.</p> | <p>Attendant control or guidance. Domestic use only.</p> |
| Perception of gradients and cambers | <p>Must reliably identify and either avoid or correct for them, to maintain control.</p> | <p>Attendant control or guidance, or terrain is friendly.</p> |
| Perception of risk | <p>Must identify risks and take appropriate precautions</p> | <p>Attendant control or guidance.</p> |
| Perception of speed | <p>Must vary speed according to conditions</p> | <p>Attendant control or guidance</p> |
| Control near customer's maximum speed | <p>Must be able to steer, accelerate and decelerate smoothly and accurately and able to proceed safely in conditions appropriate to usage</p> | <p>Attendant control or guidance</p> |
| Control at manoeuvring speed | <p>Must be able to steer accurately and to control speed from straight-ahead to both extremes of steering in conditions appropriate to usage.</p> | <p>Attendant control or guidance</p> |
| Road sense - Class 2 | <p>Must understand Class 2 law and be able to cross roads safely.</p> | <p>Attendant control or guidance Domestic use only</p> |
| - Class 3 | <p>As Class 2. Must also understand Class 3 law and be able to proceed safely in road conditions appropriate to usage.</p> | <p>Class 2 vehicle</p> |
| Attitude to pedestrians and vehicles | <p>Must show caution and consideration.</p> | <p>Attendant control or guidance Domestic use only</p> |