

Question on Notice

No. 159

Asked on Tuesday 18 February 2020

MR J MCDONALD ASKED MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT AND MAIN ROADS (HON M BAILEY)—

QUESTION:

Will the Minister advise what is the total cost to a learner driver to obtain their learners permit (a) currently and (b) for each financial year since 2010 (reported separately)?

ANSWER:

I thank the Member for Lockyer for the question.

The total cost of obtaining a learner licence is currently \$201.10, or \$160.15 if the applicant already has a Photo Identification (ID) card. This includes the cost of the *Queensland Road Rules* knowledge test that must be passed before they can be issued a learner licence.

The cost of a driver's licence reflects the cost of producing it. This includes maintaining computer records, photographic and computer equipment, facial recognition capabilities and the inclusion of security features that make the licence difficult to tamper with or duplicate. Investment in the licensing system is necessary to ensure that driver licence cards and the licensing system keep up-to-date with technology and security features. The licence fee does not cover the cost of activities associated with an effective licensing system, such as enforcement.

The following table outlines the total cost of obtaining a learner licence for each financial year since 2010. The fees are indexed in accordance with government policy each year.

Financial year	Knowledge test fee	Learner licence fee	Total cost
2019/2020	\$25.30	\$175.80 - full fee	\$201.10
		\$134.85 - discounted fee Photo ID card held	\$160.15
2018/2019	\$24.75	\$171.90 - full fee	\$196.65
		\$131.90 - discounted fee Photo ID card held (implemented 1 April 2019)	\$156.65
2017/2018	\$23.90	\$166.10	\$190.00
2016/2017	\$23.10	\$160.50	\$183.60
2015/2016	\$22.30	\$155.05	\$177.35
2014/2015	\$21.55	\$ 81.60 - laminate card	\$103.15
		\$149.80 - smartcard	\$171.35
2013/2014	\$20.80	\$ 78.85 - laminate card	\$ 99.65
		\$144.75 - smartcard	\$165.55
2012/2013	\$20.10	\$ 76.20 - laminate card	\$ 96.30
		\$139.85 - smartcard	\$159.95
2011/2012	\$19.85	\$ 75.20 - laminate card	\$ 95.05
		\$115.80 - smartcard	\$135.65
2010/2011	\$19.15	\$ 72.60 - laminate card	\$ 91.75
		\$ 92.45 - smartcard	\$111.60

The Palaszczuk Government appreciates the importance of keeping the cost of living as low as possible. In the 2019–20 Budget, the Palaszczuk Government committed \$5.66 billion to fund concessions in Queensland. This represents a significant government and taxpayer commitment to improving the accessibility and affordability of a diverse range of services.

The Palaszczuk Government has also introduced a one-month vehicle registration renewal option to enable smaller, more manageable payments. This payment option complements the existing three, six and 12-month terms that are on offer.