Vehicle for Hire and Driver Responsibilities



Taxicabs, limousines, handicabs, vans, and other vehicles for hire must comply with specific Hillsborough County regulations to help ensure the safety and comfort of passengers and drivers.

In accordance with Hillsborough County's Vehicle for Hire Ordinance 17-22, vehicles for hire must take these and other actions:

- Be annually inspected and insured
- Be structurally sound and regularly maintained
- Include proper permit decals on the exterior of the vehicle
- Include the certificate holder's name on the exterior of the vehicle*
- Provide approved rate charts, with both the basic and flat rate for in-town travel, in a location that is clearly visible to any passenger*
- Provide the license number, name, and telephone numbers of the owner, and the telephone number for Hillsborough County Code Enforcement in the rear seat area*

Common violations of Ordinance 17-22 include:

- x Failure to follow approved BOCC rate schedule
- x Failure to display and use taximeter
- x Failure to post required notices and rate charts
- x Failure to display DIB
- x Expired DIB

Enforcement and Penalties

- Failure to comply with these regulations could result in a citation and civil penalty, and violators may be referred to a Code Enforcement Board or Special Magistrate hearing and assessed additional fines.
- The County's code enforcement officers, law enforcement, or any other person authorized to enforce County ordinances may enforce these regulations.



All vehicle for hire drivers must:

- Only charge rates approved by resolution adopted by the Hillsborough County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC)
- Display a valid Driver Identification Badge (DIB) in a location that is clearly visible to any passenger*
- Display a clearly illuminated taximeter that is visible from the passenger compartment*
- Use the shortest possible route, unless otherwise requested
- Accept cash, major credit cards, and debit cards
- Not refuse to transport an individual with a disability because that individual is accompanied by a service animal
- Not smoke or use electronic devices while driving with a passenger
- Operate the vehicle's air conditioner at the request of the passenger
- Keep the vehicle clean and orderly at all times
- Be clean, courteous, well groomed, appropriately dressed, and neat in appearance
- Not transport any child five years or younger unless accompanied by a guardian

Full rules and regulations for vehicles for hire are available in Hillsborough County Code of Ordinances and Laws Sec. 10-576 through 10-650.

Hillsborough County Florida
Code Enforcement

Regulatory Compliance (813) 274-6600
RegComp@HCFL.gov

*Applies to taxicabs only

The information presented on this page does not apply to companies such as Uber and Lyft, which operate in the State of Florida as transportation network companies under Section 627.748 Florida Statute. These companies, vehicles, and drivers are not governed by the Hillsborough County Vehicle for Hire Ordinance.