

April 28, 2021

Dear Stakeholder:

Re: Class A Manual Transmission Restriction Update

This memorandum is a follow-up to the letter you received on April 15, 2021, regarding the introduction of the Class A Manual Transmission Restriction.

The Ministry of Transportation (MTO) has heard feedback regarding the implementation timeline and manual transmission definition. As such, MTO is considering proposals to change the regulatory definition of a manual transmission and the implementation date of May 17, 2021 to a later date.

The regulation is being proposed to be updated as follows:

(1) The Minister may, based on the results of an examination under clause 15 (1) (b) or (c), including the characteristics of the transmission of the motor vehicle driven during the examination of an applicant for or a holder of a Class A driver's licence, impose a condition on the person's Class A driver's licence that the person not drive a combination of vehicles that constitutes a Class A motor vehicle if the motor vehicle has a manual transmission. O. Reg. 254/21, s. 1.

(2) For the purpose of subsection (1), a motor vehicle has a manual transmission if it is equipped with,

- (a) driver-operated clutch that is activated by a pedal or lever; and
- (b) a gear-shift mechanism operated either by hand or foot and without the assistance of automation.

(3) For greater certainty, a semi-automatic transmission or an automated-manual transmission is not a manual transmission.

Furthermore, the proposed new date for implementation will be changed to July 19, 2021. This new date will provide industry and schools with at least 90 days of notification

from the initial stakeholder notification on April 15, 2021 and 60 days from the date of the originally planned implementation of May 17, 2021, to ensure all are ready to transition to manual training if they so choose and adequately prepare students.

Please provide any feedback you may have on both the updated definition and implementation date by Friday, April 30, 2021, to the following e-mail address DPOconsultations@ontario.ca.

If anyone would like to discuss these changes, they may contact Kim MacCarl, Manager, Driver Program Development Office at (416) 459-4044 or by e-mail at Kim.MacCarl@ontario.ca.

Sincerely,

Beth O'Connor
Director, Safety Program Development Branch
Transportation Safety Division