



CHAPTER 160A
ARTICLE 15 - STREETS, TRAFFIC AND PARKING

N.C.G.S. § 160A-304.

Regulation of taxis.

SOURCE General Statutes of North Carolina, as published by the General Assembly	LAST AMENDMENT IN THIS TEXT S.L. 2015-237, s. 6 — thirteenth act in the lineage	RETRIEVED 21 September 2026, 04:12 UTC	SOURCE FINGERPRINT 47d61df095627cc4124f5672 - 60d7f5e093c22af946b43c05 - 19f9cc28df6764a0
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§ 160A-304(a) A city may by ordinance license and regulate all vehicles operated for hire in the city. The ordinance may require that the drivers and operators of taxicabs engaged in the business of transporting passengers for hire over the public streets shall obtain a license or permit from the city; provided, however, that the license or permit fee for taxicab drivers shall not exceed fifteen dollars (\$15.00). As a condition of licensure, the city may require an applicant for licensure to pass a controlled substance examination. The ordinances may also specify the types of taxicab services that are legal in the municipality; provided, that in all cases shared-ride services as well as exclusive-ride services shall be legal. Shared-ride service is defined as a taxi service in which two or more persons with either different origins or with different destinations, or both, occupy a taxicab at one time. Exclusive-ride service is defined as a taxi service in which the first passenger or party requests exclusive use of the taxicab. In the event the applicant is to be subjected to a national criminal history background check, the ordinance shall specifically authorize the use of FBI records. The ordinance shall require any applicant who is subjected to a national criminal history background check to be fingerprinted.

The Department of Public Safety may provide a criminal record check to the city for a person who has applied for a license or permit through the city. The city shall provide to the Department of Public Safety, along with the request, the fingerprints of the applicant, any additional information required by the Department of Public Safety, and a form signed by the applicant consenting to the check of the criminal record and to the use of the fingerprints and other identifying information required by the State or national repositories. The applicant's fingerprints shall be forwarded to the State Bureau of Investigation for a search of the State's criminal history record

file, and the State Bureau of Investigation shall forward a set of the fingerprints to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for a national criminal history check. The city shall keep all information pursuant to this subsection privileged, in accordance with applicable State law and federal guidelines, and the information shall be confidential and shall not be a public record under Chapter 132 of the General Statutes.

The Department of Public Safety may charge each applicant a fee for conducting the checks of criminal history records authorized by this subsection.

The following factors shall be deemed sufficient grounds for refusing to issue a permit or for revoking a permit already issued:

- (1) Conviction of a felony against this State, or conviction of any offense against another state which would have been a felony if committed in this State;
- (2) Violation of any federal or State law relating to the use, possession, or sale of alcoholic beverages or narcotic or barbiturate drugs;
- (3) Addiction to or habitual use of alcoholic beverages or narcotic or barbiturate drugs;
- (4) Violation of any federal or State law relating to prostitution;
- (5) Noncitizenship in the United States;
- (6) Habitual violation of traffic laws or ordinances.

The ordinance may also require operators and drivers of taxicabs to display prominently in each taxicab, so as to be visible to the passengers, the city taxi permit, the schedule of fares, a photograph of the driver, and any other identifying matter that the council may deem proper and advisable. The ordinance may also establish rates that may be charged by taxicab operators, may limit the number of taxis that may operate in the city, and may grant franchises to taxicab operators on any terms that the council may deem advisable.

§ 160A-304(b)

When a city ordinance grants a taxi franchise for operation of a stated number of taxis within the city, the holder of the franchise shall report at least quarterly to the council the average number of taxis actually in operation during the preceding quarter. The council may amend a taxi franchise to reduce the number of authorized vehicles by the average number not in actual operation during the preceding quarter, and may transfer the unused allotment to another franchised operator. Such amendments of taxi franchises shall not be subject to G.S. 160A-76. Allotments of taxis among franchised operators may be transferred only by the city council, and it shall be

unlawful for any franchised operator to sell, assign, or otherwise transfer allotments under a taxi franchise.

§ 160A-304(c)

Nothing in this Chapter authorizes a city to adopt an ordinance doing any of the following with respect to a TNC service regulated under Article 10A of Chapter 20 of the General Statutes:

- (1) Requiring licensing or regulating.
- (2) through (5) Repealed by Session Laws 2015-237, s. 6, effective October 1, 2015.
- (6) Requiring or prohibiting taxi franchises or taxi operators from contracting with a transportation network company regulated under Article 10A of Chapter 20 of the General Statutes.

END OF SECTION TEXT

APPARATUS FOLLOWS — DERIVED, NOT ENACTED

APPARATUS I
13 ACTS

Amendment lineage

The State prints this history as a single parenthetical at the foot of the section. It is reproduced verbatim in the colophon and unpacked below in order of enactment.



Nº	YEAR	ACT	CHARACTER
01	1943	c. 639, s. 1	ENACTED
02	1945	c. 564, s. 2	AMENDED
03	1971	c. 698, s. 1	AMENDED
04	1981	c. 412, s. 4	AMENDED
05	1981	c. 606, s. 5	AMENDED
06	1981	c. 747, s. 66	AMENDED
07	1987	c. 777, s. 7	AMENDED
08	2002	S.L. 2002-147, s. 14	AMENDED
09	2003	S.L. 2003-65, s. 1	AMENDED
10	2013	S.L. 2013-413, s. 12.1(b)	AMENDED
11	2014	S.L. 2014-100, s. 17.1(o)	AMENDED

12	2014	S.L. 2014-115, s. 17	AMENDED
13	2015	S.L. 2015-237, s. 6	AMENDED

APPARATUS II

1 AUTHORITY

Authorities referenced

Every G.S. cross-reference appearing in the text of this section, in order of first appearance. Nothing is characterized; the operative language is quoted from the section itself.

REFERENCE	APPEARS IN	OPERATIVE LANGUAGE IN THIS SECTION
G.S. 160A-76	(b)	<i>"franchises shall not be subject to"</i>

APPARATUS III

Citation

FULL SECTION

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 160A-304 (2015).

PINPOINT

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 160A-304(a) (2015).

Pinpoint keys are set in the left margin of the text rather than line numbers: subsection designators are stable across editions and paper sizes, line numbers are not.

COLOPHON

Provenance

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HISTORY PARENTHETICAL, AS PRINTED BY THE STATE

(1943, c. 639, s. 1; 1945, c. 564, s. 2; 1971, c. 698, s. 1; 1981, c. 412, s. 4; c. 606, s. 5; c. 747, s. 66; 1987, c. 777, s. 7; 2002-147, s. 14; 2003-65, s. 1; 2013-413, s. 12.1(b); 2014-100, s. 17.1(o); 2014-115, s. 17; 2015-237, s. 6.)

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