

Q: How long does my fork truck driver's licence last

A: There is no such thing as a fork lift truck driver's licence!

Every employer has a responsibility, under **Regulation 9 of the Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations 1998 (PUWER 98)**, to ensure that employees have adequate training before they use work equipment.

The training required to operate Rider Forklift Trucks is explained in the **Approved Code of Practice and Guidance (ACOP)**.

The operator should receive training on each type of equipment he or she may be required to operate. Such training may be provided by an in-house instructor or an external trainer. Whilst there is no requirement for the Training Organisation to issue certificates most training providers will then issue a certificate, or other document, giving details of the results of that training. **This document is not a licence.**

The employer is required to give written authority for any employee to operate the equipment. The employers forklift training policy will determine how long this authority remains valid but it is good practice to ensure that the performance of all operators is formally monitored. HSE recommends the employer should consider a gap between training and refresher training of between three to five years, depending on the risks.