

MiDAS (*Minibus Driver Awareness Scheme*) is the UK national standard for the assessment and training of minibus drivers, and consists of three modules:

1. “**Standard**” Training

This module is classroom based and is compulsory for all drivers. It lasts approximately 3½ hours, and provides information on:

- **Driving for Safety and Economy**
- **Responsibilities of a Minibus Driver**
- **Passenger Safety**
- **Health & Safety**
- **Personal Safety**
- **Breakdown, Accident & Emergency Procedures.**

Drivers are required to pass a written multiple-choice theory assessment.

2. “**Accessible**” Training

This module is compulsory only for drivers carrying passengers with mobility difficulties (*e.g. wheelchair-users*) It lasts approximately 2½ hours, and covers:

- **Passenger Awareness and Assistance**
- **Wheelchair Tie-Down & Occupant Restraint Systems (W.T.O.R.S.)**
- **Passenger Lifts.**

3. **Driving Assessment**

This is carried out on a one-to-one basis, and takes approximately 1½ hours. Whilst it is not a strict “*test*” drivers are required to demonstrate that they can drive the minibus safely, legally and comfortably at all times. Drivers who have attended the “*accessible*” training session will also be assessed on their competence in using the *W.T.O.R.S.* equipment at the end of their driving assessment.

Drivers who successfully complete the *MiDAS* assessment and training session(s) will receive a nationally recognised certificate and have their name entered on the *MiDAS* register of drivers.

MiDAS certificates are valid for four years, after which, a short Refresher Training session is required.

LCTS provides *MiDAS* at a discounted rate for organisations based in Edinburgh, Midlothian and West Lothian.