

Ministry of Justice and National Integration
Department of Prisons

Open Competitive Examination for the Post of Driver (Departmental) and the Post of Ambulance Driver - Primary Level Skilled (Grade 111) Category at the Department of Prisons-2026

Applications are, hereby invited from qualified citizens of Sri Lanka for the Open Competitive Examination for recruitment to the vacancies existing in the posts of Driver (Departmental) and Ambulance Driver at the Department of Prisons, Sri Lanka.

I. Recruitment through this examination will be made for the posts of Driver (Departmental) and Ambulance Driver at the Department of Prisons.

II. Written Examination: This examination will consist of one (01) question paper as follows:

- Intelligence Test and Technical Knowledge

02. Date and Venue of the Examination:

This examination will be held in October 2026 at examination centers to be established in Colombo.

03. Number of Vacancies to be Appointed:

The total number of vacancies is 18 for Driver (Departmental) and 03 for Ambulance Driver. In the event that the number of candidates securing equal marks for the final vacancy or several vacancies exceeds the number of vacant positions, the determination on filling such vacancies shall be decided in accordance with Section 92 of the Procedural Rules of the Public Service Commission. The effective date of appointment will be determined by the Commissioner General of Prisons.

04. Conditions of Service:

- 4.1** A candidate shall be appointed to the relevant post of Driver (Departmental) or Ambulance Driver subject to the general conditions governing appointments in the Public Service, the provisions of the Establishments Code and Financial Regulations, and the Procedural Rules of the Public Service Commission published in the Extraordinary Gazette No. 2310/29 dated 14.12.2022.
- 4.2** Appointment is permanent and pensionable. You shall be subject to any policy decision taken by the Government in the future regarding the pension scheme applicable to you. Further, you must contribute to the Widows' and Orphans' Pension Scheme / Widowers' and Orphans' Pension Scheme. You shall make contributions for the same as prescribed by the Government from time to time.

4.3 This appointment is subject to a probation period of three (03) years. Candidates recruited to Grade III of the post of Driver (Departmental) and Ambulance Driver must pass the 1st Efficiency Bar Examination before the expiry of 03 years from recruitment; pass the 2nd Efficiency Bar Examination before the expiry of 03 years from promotion to Grade II; and pass the 3rd Efficiency Bar Examination before the expiry of 05 years from promotion to Grade I.

4.4 The prescribed official language proficiency must be acquired in accordance with Public Administration Circular No. 18/2020 and other circulars incidental thereto.

4.5 The Commissioner General of Prisons has the authority to cancel the appointment of any applicant who fails to assume duties of the post awarded on the prescribed date and/or refuses to assume duties in an appointed post or area.

05. Monthly Salary Scale:

The salary code PL- 3/2025 (Step 1) under Public Administration Circular No. 10/2025 is applicable to this post. The salary scale attached to the said salary code is as follows:

Rs. 42780 - 10x490 - 10x540 - 10x590 - 12x630 - 66540

(As per provisions of Public Administration Circular No. 10/2025 dated 25.03.2025, salary will be paid placing the candidate on the initial step corresponding to Rs. 42,780/- as stated in Schedule II thereof.)

06. Qualifications for Recruitment:

(a) (I) Must be a citizen of Sri Lanka.

(II) Must be of excellent health and exemplary character. Being convicted of an offense involving moral turpitude by any court of law shall be an absolute disqualification for appointment to the above post.

(III) Must possess the physical and mental fitness to serve in any part of Sri Lanka and to perform the duties of the post.

(IV) Minimum height must be 5 feet 4 inches (for male candidates).

(V) Chest measurement must be a minimum of 32 inches unexpanded.

(b) **Educational Qualifications:** Must have passed at least six (06) subjects with credit passes for two (02) subjects in not more than two sittings at the General Certificate of Education (Ordinary Level) Examination.

(c) **Professional Qualifications:** Must possess a valid heavy vehicle driving license issued by the Commissioner General of Motor Traffic.

(d) Experience: A minimum of three (03) years of experience after obtaining the driving license.

(e) Limitations on Qualifications:

- I.** No person holding a religious priesthood/ordained status is permitted to apply or sit for this examination.
- II.** All qualifications required for applying for this examination must be completed in every aspect on or before the closing date of applications.
- III.** The qualifications stated under 06(a) above shall remain valid until the recruitment to the post of Driver (Departmental) and Ambulance Driver is finalized.

(f) Age: Must be not less than 18 years and not more than 45 years of age as of the closing date of applications, 07.08.2026.

07. Examination Fees:

The examination fee is Rs. 600/-. This fee should be paid on or before the closing date of applications at any branch of the Bank of Ceylon Island-wide, to be credited to the official account of the Commissioner General of Prisons, Account No. **704191** at the Borella Super Grade Branch of the Bank of Ceylon. The receipt obtained in the name of the applicant must be affixed by one edge on the designated space of the application form. Under no circumstances will the examination fee be refunded or transferred to another examination. Retaining a photocopy of the receipt may be useful.

08. Method of Application:

8.1 The application form must conform to the specimen attached hereto. It should be prepared on A4 size paper (8.27" x 11.69") utilizing both sides of the paper, and must be completed by the candidate in his/her own handwriting. Computer-generated or typed applications may also be used. Headings 01 to 09 must be on the first page, 10 to 14 on the second page, and 15 to 17 on the third page. Applications not conforming to the specimen format or containing incomplete information will be rejected without notice. (Retaining a photocopy of the application form will be useful). Furthermore, the applicant must verify whether the completed application form conforms to the specimen provided in the examination notification, if not the application will be rejected.

8.2 The application must be completed in the exact medium of language in which the candidate intends to sit for the examination.

- 8.3** Completed applications should be sent via registered post on or before 07.08.2026 to the following address: The Commissioner General of Prisons, Establishments Branch, Prisons Headquarters, No. 150, Baseline Road, Colombo 09. The top left-hand corner of the envelope enclosing the application must be marked "Open Competitive Examination for Recruitment to the Post of Prison Driver (Departmental) - 2026" or "Open Competitive Examination for Recruitment to the Post of Prison Ambulance Driver - 2026". When preparing the application, it is mandatory to write the name of the examination stated in the heading in English in addition to Sinhala on Sinhala applications, and in English in addition to Tamil on Tamil applications.
- 8.4** The signature of the applicant on the application form must be attested by a Principal of a Government School, a Justice of the Peace, a Commissioner for Oaths, an Attorney-at-Law, a Public Notary, a Commissioned Officer of the Tri-Forces, a Gazetted Officer of the Police Service, or an officer holding a permanent Staff Grade post in the Government Service. Officers currently employed in the Government Service must forward their applications through the Heads of their respective Departments on or before the closing date of applications to the Commissioner General of Prisons. The Head of the Department must certify that the officer can be released from the institution if selected.
- 8.5** Applications of candidates who do not possess the required qualifications, applications where examination fees have not been paid by the due date, incomplete applications, and late applications will be rejected without prior notice. Applicants shall be held responsible for any loss resulting from incomplete application forms. No complaints regarding applications lost or delayed in the post will be entertained.
- 8.6** Receipts of applications will not be acknowledged. An advertisement will be published in the newspapers and on the website of the Department of Prisons as soon as admission cards are issued to the applicants. If the admission card is not received even after 2 or 3 days from the publication of the notice, it should be reported to the Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration (SLIDA) as specified in the notice. In doing so, your full name, address, National Identity Card number, and the name of the examination applied for must be indicated. If you are an applicant from outside Colombo, it is advisable to send a letter containing the above details via fax to the fax number mentioned in the advertisement, requesting a copy of the examination admission card, while mentioning your fax number. For verification of required details, it will be most useful to keep ready a copy of the application form, a copy of the examination fee receipt, and the registered post receipt obtained when mailing the application.

09. Admission to the Examination:

- (a) A candidate must sit for the examination at the examination hall assigned to him/her. Every candidate must get his/her signature attested on the admission card and surrender it to the Supervisor of the examination hall on the first day of appearing for the examination at that hall. No candidate will be permitted to enter the examination hall without an admission card. A set of rules to be followed by every candidate is published at the beginning of this Gazette. Candidates are subject to the rules and regulations imposed by the Director General of the Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration regarding the conduct of the examination and the release of results. Violation of these rules may render them liable to a penalty imposed by the Director General of the Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration.
- (b) The issuance of an admission card to a candidate shall not be considered as an acceptance that he or she has fulfilled the qualifications for the examination or the post.

10. Identity of Candidates:

Candidates must prove their identity in the examination hall to the satisfaction of the Supervisor for every subject they sit for. For this purpose, one of the following documents must be presented to the Examination Hall Supervisor:

- (I) National Identity Card (NIC)
- (II) Valid Passport
- (III) Valid Driving License

11. Penalty for Furnishing False Information:

Utmost care must be taken to provide accurate details when filling out the application form. If a candidate is found to be ineligible according to the rules and regulations of this examination, his/her candidacy may be cancelled at any stage prior to, during, or after the examination. If it is revealed that any information furnished by an applicant is willfully false, or if any material fact has been intentionally suppressed, action will be taken to cancel his/her appointment.

12. Mode of Examination and Language Medium:

- (a) The examination will be conducted in Sinhala, Tamil, and English mediums.
- (b) A candidate will not be permitted to change the language medium of the examination specified in his/her application form subsequently.

13. Method of Recruitment:

I. Written Examination

Subjects	Maximum Marks	Pass Mark
Intelligence Test and Technical Knowledge	100%	40%

Syllabus

Name of the Question Paper	Syllabus
Intelligence Test	A question paper designed to measure the candidate's logical reasoning, analytical thinking capability, and decision-making capacity.
Technical Knowledge	Testing the knowledge regarding vehicle maintenance and its operations.

II. Professional Test

Subjects	Maximum Marks	Pass Mark
i. Road Rules ii. Road Signs iii. A practical test conducted by an Examiner appointed by the Commissioner General of Motor Traffic, an Officer of the Police Traffic Division, and an Executive Officer of the Department of Prisons.	100%	40%

III. General Interview: No marks will be awarded. Only the verification of basic eligibility qualifications will be conducted.

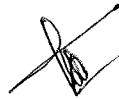
14. Vacancies for each post will be filled based on the order of merit determined by the aggregate marks obtained from the above Tests I and II.

15. The application must be submitted strictly in accordance with the prescribed specimen format. Applications that do not conform to it or are improperly completed will be rejected without any notice. Applicants must bear any loss incurred due to failure to fill out the applications properly.

16. Applicants who secure the highest marks based on the total aggregate marks obtained in the written examination and the professional test will be recruited respectively for the post of Driver (Departmental) and the post of Ambulance Driver.

Please Note: Participation in the interview shall not be construed as fulfillment of eligibility for the award of an appointment.

- The appointing authority reserves the right to fill a certain number of vacancies or not to fill any of the vacancies.



R. Prasad Hemantha Kumara

Commissioner General of Prisons (Covering Duties)

Prisons Headquarters,

Colombo 09.

24 June 2026