

Loading Zones

Fact Sheet

Recent changes to loading zone rules

The NSW Government recently made amendments to loading zone rules. A key change, which took effect on 1 September 2021, was to allow all goods vehicles to use a loading zone for up to 30 minutes. Previously, station wagons were limited to a maximum of 15 minutes and other types of goods vehicles to a maximum of 30 minutes. Under the change, drivers of all goods vehicles, which includes a station wagon, are now permitted to park in loading zones while picking up or dropping off goods, for up to 30 minutes.

Key messages:

Loading zones

Loading zones are clearly signed parking areas that drivers may use while they are picking up or delivering goods, and bus drivers may use to pick up and set down passengers. Loading zones are primarily intended to support businesses without access to off-street loading or parking facilities in areas with limited kerbside parking.

A driver may park in a loading zone if:

- They are driving a vehicle that has been built to carry goods and they are engaged in picking up or dropping off goods (up to a maximum of 30 minutes). For example, a driver delivering music equipment at a venue; or
- They are driving a public bus and they are picking up or setting down passengers (up to a maximum of 30 minutes).

Drivers of other vehicles may also use loading zones to drop off or pick up passengers, but may only stop for the period during which a person is getting into or out of the vehicle.

What is a goods vehicle?

A goods vehicle is defined as a vehicle constructed principally for the conveyance of goods. Types of goods vehicles include trucks, delivery vans and station wagons being used for goods delivery.

What is a public bus?

A public bus is a vehicle that can seat more than 8 adults and is used commercially.

Controlled loading zone scheme

A change was also made to the former ticket-operated loading zone scheme, which is now known as the controlled loading zone scheme.

This scheme has been simplified to provide flexibility for parking authorities to adopt different technologies for managing parking by allowing the issue of tickets in either printed or electronic form.

The period of time for which the driver of a goods vehicle may park in a controlled loading zone can be determined by the parking authority, up to a maximum of 30 minutes.