# Getting Help with Your Driver's Licence as a Dyslexic Person (NZ-focused)

## 1. Let NZTA (Waka Kotahi) Know

When booking your theory or practical test, you can request special assistance. This might include:
- An oral theory test (where the questions are read aloud to you via headphones)
- Extra time
- Support understanding instructions during the practical test

Call NZTA directly on 0800 822 422 and explain your needs — they are used to accommodating learning differences.

## 2. Use Assistive Tools for the Theory Test

The AA and Drive.govt.nz websites have practice theory tests. Try using:
- Text-to-speech software (e.g. NaturalReader, VoiceOver)
- Screen readers or coloured overlays
- Apps like Speechify or ClaroRead to support comprehension
- Break practice into short, consistent sessions to improve retention

Resource: [https://www.drive.govt.nz](https://www.drive.govt.nz/) – great for learning the road code in interactive ways

## 3. Consider a Supportive Driving Instructor

Choose an instructor who understands dyslexia and neurodiversity — someone patient and able to adapt instructions (e.g. using visuals or simplified steps).

Ask around or search local Facebook groups for recommendations — there are many instructors who specialize in working with people with learning differences.

Simply ask them if they have experience with teaching those who learn differently.

## 4. Extra Support

If anxiety or memory is a big barrier, some people benefit from:
- Occupational therapists who specialize in driving
- Specialist literacy/dyslexia tutors who help with test strategies
- Mindfulness or coaching techniques to build confidence

## 5. Know Your Strengths

Dyslexic people are often great at spatial awareness, intuition, and learning by doing — all strengths for practical driving!
Don't let one style of testing define your ability to be a safe and confident driver.