

## Driving Issues and the use of Bioptics to Drive



ALBINISM  
FELLOWSHIP  
OF AUSTRALIA

There has been much discussion on how to approach this with children, especially those who are obsessed with cars and driving from a young age. Parents will know best how to handle this, but many have suggested to not bring up the subject, or to make a definite statement about probable inability to drive, leaving the question open. Sometimes it can be better to allow them to dream with peers, as we don't know what advances will be made in bioptics and cars in the next few years which may make it possible. By the time teenagers near the learner age, they will possibly work this out for themselves and decide they would not be comfortable driving.

**The following information is from Bioptic Drivers Australia:**

In Australia, people are allowed to drive using a bioptic telescope however there is no formalised process to allow for assessment by eyesight practitioners. The Assessing Fitness to Drive (AFTD)

guidelines allow candidates to meet medical standards and qualify for conditional licences with corrective lenses, but are not clear how bioptic devices are included. The AFTD guidelines also determine that no standards are set for bioptic telescopes. As a result, the ruling for bioptic driving is open to interpretation by each state's driver licensing authority, generating inconsistency in the assessment of potential bioptic users.

<https://www.biopticdriversaus.com/australian-framework>