## Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations Compliance



#### 2025 North Carolina Department of Revenue Motor Carrier Seminars







## **Todays Agenda**





Part 1

Do I need a USDOT



Obtaining a US DOT

Registration



Operating Authority

Part 2

Compliance

#### Do I need a USDOT Number?

- Any commercial motor vehicle used on a highway in interstate commerce to transport passengers or property;
- (1) Has a gross vehicle weight rating or gross combination weight rating, or gross vehicle weight or gross combination weight, of 4,536 kg (10,001 pounds) or more, whichever is greater; or
- (2) Is designed or used to transport more than 8 passengers (including the driver) for compensation; or
- (3) Is designed or used to transport more than 15 passengers, including the driver, and is not used to transport passengers for compensation; or
- (4) Is used in transporting material found by the Secretary of Transportation to be hazardous under 49 U.S.C. 5103 and transported in a quantity requiring placarding under regulations prescribed by the Secretary under 49 CFR, subtitle B, chapter I, subchapter C.

## **How do I get a USDOT Number?**

#### Here's what's coming down the road.

FMCSA is developing a new, user-friendly registration system to manage the registration life cycle for regulated entities. FMCSA's goal with the launch of the new system is to simplify the registration process, streamline identification, improve the user experience, and incorporate enhanced verification tools.

#### **Simplified Registration Process**

- · Consolidation of FMCSA forms into a single online system.
- Easily accessible account pages to view and manage user and business information, preferences, and activity.
- Enhanced user roles to engage the right people at the right time.

#### **Streamlined Registration Identification**

- All regulated entities will continue to be identified by a USDOT Number.
- Suffixes at the end of the USDOT Number will indicate each type of registration granted. These suffixes will not be a vehicle marking requirement.

#### Improved and Intuitive User Experience

- Enhancements will include auto-population tools, real-time data validation, smart logic, edit checks, and notifications.
- Mobile devices and tablets can be used to view and update registration information on the go—no need to wait on paper form processing.

#### **Enhanced Verification and Fraud Reduction**

- · New identity verification software and user account roles will protect and control system access.
- New business verification and information edit checks will validate key information, such as principal place of business address.
- The system will support automated, secure processes for company officials and their support users, such as insurance filers, service providers, and blanket companies, to conduct business electronically.

## Do I need operating authority?

In general, companies that do the following are required to have interstate Operating Authority (MC number) in addition to a DOT number:

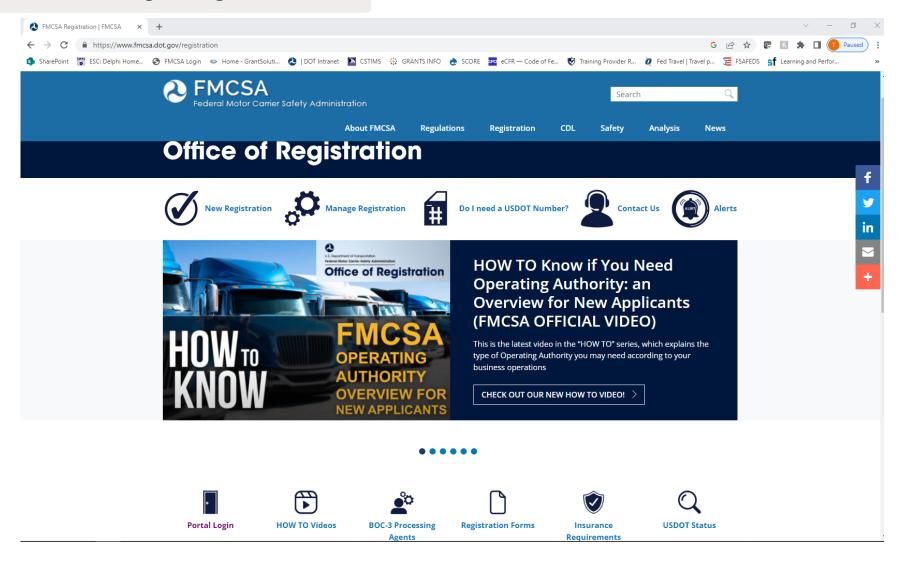
- Operate as for-hire carriers (for a fee or other compensation)
- Transport passengers in interstate commerce
- Transport federally-regulated commodities or arranging for their transport, in interstate commerce

## **USDOT** Number and Operating Authority

- USDOT Number and Operating Authority are required before beginning transportation
- Applications for Operating Authority take approximately 3-5 weeks to process:
  - Insurance company must provide required forms to FMCSA
  - Must obtain and file evidence of a process agent

## **USDOT Number and Operating Authority**

https://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/registration



# Questions or Comments?

# Part 2 - Compliance

## How to comply

Motor carriers generally must comply with 49 CFR Parts 382-399. This includes:

- Driver Qualification
- CDL
- Drug and Alcohol Testing
- State and Local Laws
- Hours of Service
- Vehicle Maintenance
- Hazardous Materials

## How do I comply (Resources)?

Obtain copy of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations and/or Hazardous Materials Regulations (also available online)

FMCSA's Motor Carrier Safety Planner:

https://csa.fmcsa.dot.gov/safetyplanner/

- Can be customized to meet your needs (login required)
- Plain language explanations of safety regulations
- Includes example forms you can use to make compliance easier

#### **49 CFR Part 382**

## Types of Test

- Pre-Employment
- Post Accident
- Random (50% controlled substance and 10% alcohol testing)
- Reasonable Suspicion
- Return to Duty
- Follow-Up Testing

#### **49 CFR Part 383**

A CDL is required if the vehicle operated meets any of the following definitions:

- (1) Has a gross combination weight rating or gross combination weight of 11,794 kilograms or more (26,001 pounds or more), whichever is greater, inclusive of a towed unit(s) with a gross vehicle weight rating or gross vehicle weight of more than 4,536 kilograms (10,000 pounds), whichever is greater; or
- (2) Has a gross vehicle weight rating or gross vehicle weight of 11,794 or more kilograms (26,001 pounds or more), whichever is greater; or
- (3) Is designed to transport 16 or more passengers, including the driver; or
- (4) Is of any size and is used in the transportation of *hazardous materials* as defined in this section.

#### **49 CFR Part 383**

The CDL holder must have the proper endorsements (if required) to operate the vehicle in commerce:

- Double/Triple Trailers —a knowledge test;
- Passenger a knowledge and a skills test;
- > *Tank vehicle* —a knowledge test;
- *Hazardous Materials* —a knowledge test; and
- > School bus —a knowledge and a skills test.

#### Restrictions

Watch for restrictions on the license (glasses, intrastate only)

## **Entry-Level Driver Training (ELDT) Final Rule**

- Published in 2016, mandated by Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act (MAP-21) Legislation
- Set a Federal standard for mandatory training of entry-level drivers
  - Establishes minimum training requirements entry-level drivers and training providers must meet
  - States may have requirements that <u>exceed</u> Federal requirements
- Established the need for the Training Provider Registry (TPR)
- Compliance Date: February 7, 2022

[Located in 49 CFR Part 380]

## **Entry-Level Drivers – Who Is Covered?**

The ELDT regulations establish new minimum training standards for entry-level drivers. This includes individuals applying for:

A (1) Class A or (2) Class B commercial driver's license (CDL) for the <u>first time</u>

An (3) upgrade of an existing Class B CDL to a Class A CDL

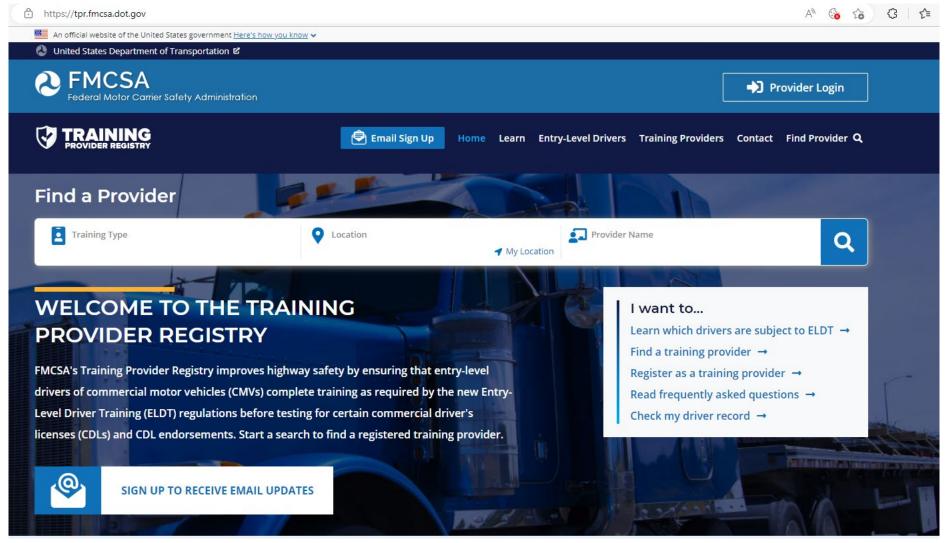
A (4) hazardous materials (H), (5) passenger (P), or (6) school bus (S) endorsement for the <u>first time</u>

*Key:* First Time – Those individuals who have "previously" held the same class of CDL or endorsements; this must be verifiable within Minnesota's driver's license history record (i.e., FAST system).

Military: Rule does <u>not</u> cover individuals for whom States have waived the CDL skills test under 49 CFR 383

## **Training Provider Registry – Now Open!**

https://www.trp.fmcsa.dot.gov



- Contains the official list of approved entry-level driver training providers.
- Retains a record of drivers that have successfully completed entry-level driver training.

## **Entry-Level Drivers – Accessing the Information?**

- Who will access information from the Training Provider Registry?
  - Entry-level **drivers**\* will **SEARCH** for a training provider using the list on the Training Provider Registry website.
  - Registered training providers\* will SUBMIT driver certification information to FMCSA after a driver successfully completes training.
  - States will **VERIFY** a driver's completion of required training using data made available by the Training Provider Registry before administering relevant tests.
    - \* **Drivers** do not need to register for the Training Provider Registry. Only training providers will register and provide information to the registry.
    - \* When registering, **training providers** must self-certify that they meet all requirements in ELDT regulation requirements.

## **Drug and Alcohol Clearinghouse**

## The Clearinghouse Rules

#### Initial Rule:

- Mandated by Congress in MAP-21
- Published: December 5, 2016
- Established requirements for the Clearinghouse
- Implemented: January 6, 2020

#### Second rule:

- State Driver's Licensing Agency Non-Issuance/Downgrade of Commercial Driver's License
- Published: October 7, 2021
- Effective date: November 8, 2021
- Implementation date: November 18, 2024



## Clearinghouse-II SDLA Requirements

#### 1. Non-Issuance

- State Driver Licensing Agency (SDLA)
  must query the Clearinghouse prior to
  issuing, renewing, transferring, or
  upgrading a CDL or CLP
- SDLA must deny a commercial license transaction (non-issuance) if the Clearinghouse query shows a driver is prohibited





## Clearinghouse-II SDLA Requirements

#### 2. Mandatory CDL Downgrade

- SDLA will receive notification of a driver's prohibited status
- SDLA must initiate the process to remove a CLP or CDL privilege (downgrade)
- FMCSA will notify the SDLA if a driver completes return-to-duty process (no longer prohibited)
- FMCSA will notify the SDLA if an erroneously entered violation is removed
  - SDLA must reinstate commercial driving privilege
  - SDLA to expunge driving record accordingly



No later than

NOVEMBER

18

2024

## **Drug Violation Data (as of February 2025)**

Substance	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Total
Marijuana Metabolite (Δ9-THCA)	29,511	31,085	40,916	37,657	34,636	5,203	179,008
Cocaine Metabolite (BZE)	7,940	8,765	10,953	10,326	10,037	1,334	49,355
Methamphetamine (MET/MAMP)	5,187	5,082	5,569	4,515	4,565	681	25,599
Amphetamine (AMP)	4,953	4,904	5,349	4,222	3,781	540	23,749
Oxymorphone (OXYM)	1,372	1,276	1,398	1,094	943	142	6,225
Oxycodone (OXYC)	1,106	1,049	1,130	923	767	118	5,093
Hydrocodone (HYC)	1,082	1,048	1,042	836	633	83	4,724
Hydromorphone (HYM)	1,000	930	965	811	648	96	4,450
Morphine (MOP)	443	353	445	370	377	65	2,053
Codeine (COD)	386	329	444	358	300	60	1,877
6-Acetylmorphine (6-AM)	302	191	177	116	100	20	906
Phencyclidine (PCP)	137	118	138	90	76	18	577
Ecstasy (MDMA)	65	60	68	76	83	8	360
Methylenedioxyamphetamine (MDA)	30	33	45	49	53	4	214
All substances	53,514	55,223	68,639	61,443	56,999	8,372	304,190

## 49 CFR Part 391 Driver Qualification

# The driver qualification file for a driver must include:

- (1) The driver's application for employment completed in accordance with § 391.21;
- >(2) A copy of the motor vehicle record received from each State record pursuant to § 391.23(a)(1);
- >(3) The certificate of driver's road test issued to the driver pursuant to § 391.31(e), or a copy of the license or certificate which the motor carrier accepted as equivalent to the driver's road test pursuant to § 391.33;
- ➤ (4) The motor vehicle record received from each State driver licensing agency to the annual driver record inquiry required by § 391.25(a);

## 49 CFR Part 391 Driver Qualification Cont.

- >(5) A note relating to the annual review of the driver's driving record as required by § 391.25(c)(2);
- ► (6) A list or certificate relating to violations of motor vehicle laws and ordinances required by § 391.27;
- >(7)(i) The medical examiner's certificate as required by § 391.43(g) or a legible copy of the certificate.
- ➤ (8) A Skill Performance Evaluation Certificate obtained from a Field Administrator, Division Administrator, or State Director issued in accordance with § 391.49; or the Medical Exemption document, issued by a Federal medical program in accordance with part 381 of this chapter; and
- >(9) A note relating to verification of medical examiner listing on the National Registry of Certified Medical Examiners required by § 391.23(m).

#### 49 CFR Part 396 Vehicle Maintenance

- 393.3(a) *General*. Every motor carrier and intermodal equipment provider must systematically inspect, repair, and maintain, or cause to be systematically inspected, repaired, and maintained, all motor vehicles and intermodal equipment subject to its control.
- (1) Parts and accessories shall be in safe and proper operating condition at all times.
- 396.3(b) *Required records*. Motor carriers, except for a private motor carrier of passengers (nonbusiness), must maintain, or cause to be maintained, records for each motor vehicle they control for 30 consecutive days. Intermodal equipment providers must maintain or cause to be maintained, records for each unit of intermodal equipment they tender or intend to tender to a motor carrier. These records must include:
- (1) An identification of the vehicle including company number, if so marked, make, serial number, year, and tire size. In addition, if the motor vehicle is not owned by the motor carrier, the record shall identify the name of the person furnishing the vehicle;
- (2) A means to indicate the nature and due date of the various inspection and maintenance operations to be performed;
- (3) A record of inspection, repairs, and maintenance indicating their date and nature; and
- (4) A record of tests conducted on pushout windows, emergency doors, and emergency door marking lights on buses.
- (c) *Record retention*. The records required by this section shall be retained where the vehicle is either housed or maintained for a period of 1 year and for 6 months after the motor vehicle leaves the motor carrier's control.

#### 49 CFR Part 396 Vehicle Maintenance

- Must prepare daily vehicle inspection report when defect is discovered
- Annual Vehicle Inspection in accordance with 396.17
- ➤ Annual Vehicle Inspection Certification
- ➤ Brake Certification

#### 49 CFR Part 395 Hours of Service

- Cannot drive more than 11 hours without 10 consecutive hours off duty
- Cannot drive after having been on duty 14 hours without 10 consecutive hours off duty

- Cannot driver after having been on duty 60/70 in 7 or 8 days
- Must have 34 consecutive hours off duty to reset 60/70 hour rule

## **Exemptions**



#### **Short-haul Exception**

Expands the short-haul exception to 150 air-miles and allows a 14-hour work shift to take place as part of the exception.



#### **Adverse Driving Conditions Exception**

Expands the driving window during adverse driving conditions by up to an additional 2 hours.

## **HOS Update Continued**



#### **30-Minute Break Requirement**

Requires break of at least 30 consecutive minutes after 8 cumulative hours of driving time (instead of on-duty time) and allows an on-duty/not driving period to qualify as the required break.



#### **Sleeper Berth Provision**

Modifies the sleeper berth exception to allow a driver to meet the 10-hour minimum off-duty requirement by spending at least 7 hours of that period in the berth combined with a minimum off-duty period of at least 2 hours spent inside or outside the berth, provided the two periods total at least 10 hours. When used together as specified, neither qualify period counts against the 14-hour driving window.

## Who is required to use an ELD?

- Interstate CMV drivers currently required to keep RODS
  - Subject to requirements in 49 CFR 395
- Drivers of CMVs defined in 49 CFR 390.5
  - •≥ 10,001 pounds
  - Placarded hazmat
  - More than 8 or 15 passengers
- 150 and 150 air-mile radius drivers who use paper RODS more than 8 days in any 30-day period

## **Exemptions**

- 150 air-mile radius drivers may continue to use timecards, as allowed by §395.1(e)(1)
- 150 air-mile radius non-CDL freight drivers may continue to use timecards, as allowed by §395.1(e)(2)
- Using paper RODS for not more than 8 days during any 30-day period
- Conducting "drive away-tow away" operations
- Driving vehicle with engine manufactured before year 2000

# **National Registry of Certified Medical Examiners (NRCME)**

May 21, 2014 – All medical certificates issued on or after compliance date must be issued by certified examiners on the National Registry

#### Medical Examiners must:

- Be licensed, certified, or registered in accordance with applicable State laws to perform physical examinations
- Complete training meeting core curriculum requirements
- Pass the medical examiner certification test administered by a testing organization that meets FMCSA requirements
- Complete refresher training every 5 years
- Complete recertification testing every 10 years
- Submit monthly reports to FMCSA

## **National Registry Statistics**

- Over 52,000 certified medical examiners
- Over 14,000,000 medical examinations conducted
  - ≥ 60.2% 2-yr card
  - ≥ 33.2% 1-yr card
  - > 5.2% 3-month
  - > 1.4% less than 3 month

National Registry II Compliance date: June 23, 2025

## **National Registry**

#### **Drivers Must:**

- Submit MEC to NC DMV each time new card is issued
- Make sure information is posted to driver's CDL
- Recommend drivers still carry certificate until posted to CDL
- National Registry II Compliance date: June 23, 2025

### **NCDMV** Information

#### **NCDMV**

Data Capture Imaging Unit 3126 Mail Service Center Raleigh, NC 27699-3126

MEC's can also be emailed to:

CDLmedical@ncdot.gov

## Thank you for your Commitment to Safety

Questions or Comments?