
Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations for commercial driver's license (CDL) holders

When you:

- Apply for a CDL (A, B or C class)
- Renew a CDL
- Apply for a higher class of CDL
- Apply for a new endorsement on a CDL
- Apply for a duplicate CDL

You must self-certify that you operate in one of the following:

1. **Non-excepted Interstate (NI)**, you operate or expect to operate in interstate commerce. You are subject to 49 CFR part 391. (Must provide a current medical examiner's certificate plus any waivers indicated on the certificate)
2. **Non-excepted Intrastate (NA)**, you operate or expect to operate only in intrastate commerce and are required to meet FMCSA driver qualification requirements. (Must provide a current medical examiner's certificate ("Vermont only", which can be found on our website plus any waivers indicated on the certificate) If you are under 21, or are insulin dependent diabetic, or have monocular vision a K restriction will be added to your license/permit.
3. **Excepted Interstate (EI)**, you operate or expect to operate in interstate commerce, but engage exclusively in operations that qualify for exception of the requirement to maintain a federal medical certificate.
4. **Excepted Intrastate (EA)**, you operate or expect to operate in a city, county state or federal vehicle ONLY and are exempt from the FMCSA driver qualification requirements.

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations require self-certification. Reference 49 CFR 383.71 and 383.73

Those certifying in non-excepted interstate or non-excepted intrastate commerce (1 or 2 above) must also provide their medical examiner's certificate or DOT card to DMV where it will be added to the driver's personal driving history. Failure to present valid medical documentation will result in the denial of the issuance or renewal of the CDL. Failure to maintain current medical documentation on file with DMV may result in a suspension and/or downgrade of your CDL.

All CDL holders must continue to carry all medical certification documents with them at all times even after completing the self-certification process with DMV.

To read more about the new Medical Certification Federal Requirement visit the US Department of Transportation, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration at - <http://1.usa.gov/NewCDLRules>.

School Bus Drivers

All CDL holders with a school bus endorsement are still required to submit the complete medical.

Keeping Things Current

You must ensure that your medical documentation on file with DMV remains current and accurate. If you self-certify in a category exempt from medical certification requirements (3 and 4 above), and later change to a non-excepted type of operation (1 or 2), you must recertify in the appropriate category and provide proof of current medical certification to avoid potential enforcement actions and the loss of your commercial driving privilege.

Need more information? Call 802.828.2085 or
Email DMV.MedCert@state.vt.us

Determining What Category Applies to You

For the purpose of complying with the new requirements for self-certification, it is important to know how you are using the commercial motor vehicle. To help you accurately determine this, you must determine how you are using the commercial motor vehicle (CMV).

Follow these easy steps

1. Do you, or will you, use a CDL to operate a CMV in **interstate** or **intrastate commerce**?

Interstate commerce is when you drive a CMV:

- From one state to another state or a foreign country;
- Between two places within a state, but during part of the trip, the CMV crosses into another state or foreign country; or
- Between two places within a state, but the cargo is part of a trip that began or will end in another state or foreign country.

You must be 21 years of age or older

Intrastate commerce is when you drive a CMV within a state and you do not meet any of the descriptions above for **interstate commerce**.

If you operate in both **intrastate commerce** and **interstate commerce**, you must choose **interstate commerce**.

2. Once you decide you operate or will operate in **interstate commerce** or **intrastate commerce**, you must decide whether you operate (or expect to operate) in an excepted or non-excepted status. This decision will tell you to which of the four types of commerce you must self-certify.
3. If you are currently not operating a commercial motor vehicle and wish to retain your commercial driver license, you may certify as Excepted Interstate (EI). When you begin operation of a commercial motor vehicle, you will be required to update your certification and provide a valid DOT medical card.

INTERSTATE COMMERCE:

You operate in **excepted interstate commerce** when you drive a CMV in interstate commerce **only** for the following exempted activities:

- As federal, state or local government employees
- The transportation of human corpses or sick or injured persons
- The operation of fire truck or rescue vehicles while involved in emergency and related operations
- Primarily in the transportation of propane winter heating fuel when responding to an emergency condition requiring immediate response such as damage to a propane gas system after a storm or flooding;
- In response to a pipeline emergency such as a leak or rupture
- In custom harvesting on a farm or to transportation of farm machinery and supplies used in the custom harvesting operation to and from a farm or within 150 miles of the farm (does not apply to the transport of hazardous materials requiring a placard or to combination vehicles)
- Beekeeper in the seasonal transportation of bees
- As a private motor carrier of passengers for non-business purposes
- To transport migrant workers

If you answered yes to one or more of the above activities as the **only** operation in which you drive, you operate in **excepted interstate commerce** and do not need a federal medical examiner's certificate.

If you answered no to all of the above activities, you operate in **non-excepted interstate commerce** and are required to provide a current medical examiner's certificate (49 CFR 391.45), commonly referred to as a medical certificate or DOT card. Most CDL holders who drive in interstate commerce are non-except interstate commerce drivers.

If you operate in both excepted and non- excepted interstate commerce, you must select **non-excepted interstate** commerce to be qualified to operate in both types of interstate commerce.

INTRASTATE COMMERCE:

You operate in **excepted intrastate** commerce when you drive a CMV only in intrastate commerce activities for which Vermont statutes do not require you to meet medical certification requirements.

Most CDL drivers operating in Vermont operate in **non-excepted intrastate** commerce and are required to obtain a medical certificate. This includes:

- Drivers of vehicles over 26, 000 pounds gross vehicle weight
- Drivers of vehicles that carry hazardous materials that require a placard
- Drivers of vehicle designed to transport 16 or more persons including the driver

A Word about Waivers

If your medical examiner's certificate is only valid with a vision, diabetes or a skills performance evaluation waiver granted by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Association (FMCSA), you must also provide a copy of your waiver.