Ohio Commercial Driver Self-Certification / Medical Examiner's Certification Information

This is to provide you guidance on how to comply with new federal requirements for commercial driver license (CDL) holders and applicants.

For interstate CDL drivers (drivers who drive across state lines or transport freight that has or will cross state lines), the new requirements will apply depending on when you apply, renew or upgrade for a CDL:

The submittal of the self-certification form and the driver's medical examiner's certificate to the state driver licensing agency **is the responsibility of the driver** per the FMCSA Regulations. Failure to stay in compliance will result in a loss of your CDL endorsement on your driver's license.

Remember this is not a one-time certification process. Every time you renew your medical examiner's certificate you must submit it to your state driver licensing agency. Every time you apply for a CDL, renew a CDL, apply for a higher class of CDL, apply for a new endorsement on a CDL or transfer a CDL from another state you are responsible for completing and submitting your self-certification form and/or a copy of your medical examiner's certificate (Medical Card) to the BMV at one of the addresses listed at the bottom of this page. .

January 30, 2014 deadline
All CDL drivers who have not renewed or upgraded their CDL between January 30, 2012, and January 30, 2014, will be required to submit a completed CDL Self-Certification Authorization, Form BMV 2159, to the BMV before January 30, 2014. In addition, all interstate CDL drivers who are not accepted under Category 2 will be required to submit their Medical Card before January 30, 2014. The BMV will send a reminder before January 30, 2014.

Please visit www.ohiobmv.gov for a copy of the BMV Form 2159 or, for any questions, look under General Information, "New Federal Regulations for CDL holders effective January 30, 2012." Also, you may call the dedicated toll free number (855) 240-8844 (Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.) for direct CDL assistance.

Mailed-in Medical Certificate
Ohio BMV CDL Processing
P.O. Box 16784
Columbus, OH 43216-6784

In PERSON delivery
Any BMV Reinstatement Office
See www.ohiobmv.gov for locations
or call Toll Free (855) 240-8844

Faxed Medical Certificate
(614) 308-5181 Please include a cover page with name, address and telephone number

E-mail Medical Certificate (If emailing Medical Certificate, they prefer PDF format.)
CDL@dps.state.oh.us

Ohio - Frequently Asked Questions

What if I did not receive the notification letter?

Contact the Ohio BMV at 614-752-7500 to verify and update the address on record and a letter will be mailed to you.

What is the difference between Category 1 and Category 3?

Category 1 and 3 are similar except that those who certify category 3 do not drive out of Ohio. You may still be required to hold a medical card but do not have to submit the card to the Ohio BMV.

How many days before I renew or upgrade do I have to send in the copy of the medical card?

You should mail in the medical card 30 days before you plan on going to a Deputy Registrar.

Do I need the long medical form or just my medical card?

If you expect to obtain a job which requires travel across state lines and you have a valid medical card you can submit the medical card and certify Category 1.

I do plan on driving across state lines, what category should I certify?

Category 1, you will have to submit a medical card when certifying category 1.

What are the new requirements for CDL license holders?

Starting on January 30, 2012 new Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) regulations will require all Commercial Driver License (CDL) holders to Self-Certify their expected type of commercial driving and/or submit the required Medical Examiner's Certificate to the Ohio Bureau of Motor Vehicles PRIOR to the issuance of a CDL.

What must I do to comply with the new requirements for self-certifying and/or making my medical certification part of my CDL driving record?

Starting on January 30, 2012, when you:

- Apply for a CDL
- Renew a CDL
- Apply for a higher class of CDL
- Apply for a new endorsement on a CDL

- Transfer a CDL from another state

You will be required to self-certify to a single type of commercial operation on your driver license application form. Based on that self-certification, you may need to provide the Ohio BMV with a current medical examiner's certificate to keep your CDL.

Do all CDL license holders have to self-certify?

Yes. All CDL drivers must self-certify their expected type of commercial driving by January 30, 2014.

How do I self-certify?

After January 30, 2012, you can self-certify upon application of your CDL at a local Deputy Registrar.

Is there a form to self-certify?

Yes - BMV Form 2159.

How long will it take to process the documents?

You will be notified within 10 business days of confirmation or rejection of your forms.

How can I submit the MECERT and/or self-certification forms?

By Mail: Ohio BMV CDL/Out of State Process, P.O. Box 16784, Columbus, OH 43216-6784

By E-mail: CDL@dps.state.oh.us

By Fax: 614-308-5181 (please include a cover page with your name, address, and contact number).

For same day service, you may take completed forms to a Regional Service Center.

What happens if I do not self-certify and/or submit the required MECERT form?

Failure to self-certify and/or submit the required Medical Examiner's Certificate by January 30, 2014 will put you at risk of losing your CDL privileges, until compliant.

Do drivers need to carry the medical certification when driving a Commercial Motor Vehicle?

Yes. Drivers are required to carry a current copy of a medical examination certificate.

Pennsylvania Commercial Driver Self-Certification / Medical Examiner's Certification Information

As part of the Motor Carrier Safety Improvement Act, the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) amended the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (FMCSRs) to require commercial driver's license (CDL) holders, subject to the physical qualification requirements of the FMCSRs, to:

- Provide a current copy of their Medical Examiner's Certificate to their state driver licensing agency.
- The new Federal regulations also require commercial drivers to self-certify the type of driving in which they operate or expect to operate.
- Commercial drivers are required to certify using Penn DOT's Self-Certification Form (DL-11CD), which can be obtained via **http://www.dmv.state.pa.us/**. Click on the "New CDL Law" tab located on the left side of the webpage. The webpage also contains information and instructions to become compliant with the regulations.

Mailed-in Medical Certificate
PA Department of Transportation Bureau of Driver Licensing
P.O. Box 68678
Harrisburg, PA 17106-8678

Faxed Medical Certificate
717-783-5429

Name of Public Point of Contact
Penn DOT will have specialized Customer Service Representatives available at their Call Center, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Phone Number of Public Point of Contact
1-877-726-8824

PA Consequences for driver's failure to keep medical certification current
Drivers who do not update their Medical Examiner's Certificate prior to the current certificate's expiration date will have the commercial designation removed from their driver's license. In order to avoid the immediate removal of the commercial designation on the driver's license, a driver would need to update their self-certification to one of the "excepted" categories. However, making this change to their driving record will automatically disqualify them from operating in any form of transportation that requires a Medical Examiner's Certificate.