

Idaho Commercial Drivers Self-Certification Reporting

--Frequently Asked Questions --

Note: In this document, "ITD" refers to the Idaho Transportation Department, Division of Motor Vehicles, Driver Services.

1. What is "self- certification" and why do I have to do it?

New Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration regulations require that all CDL holders must provide information to their State Driver License Agency (for Idaho, that's the Idaho Transportation Department, Driver Services) regarding the type of commercial motor vehicle operation they drive or expect to drive in with their CDL.

Current Idaho CDL holders will be required to "self-certify" as to the type of commercial operation they will be doing. The driving category self-certification will also need to be declared whenever the CDL holder:

- Applies for or renews a CDL;
- Applies for a different class of CDL;
- Applies for a new endorsement on a CDL; or
- Transfer a CDL from another State to Idaho

Later this year, the CDL holder may need to provide ITD with a copy of their current DOT Medical Card and show any variance that is required to obtain or keep the CDL. **Drivers who need to submit their DOT Medical Card information will be notified by mail later in 2013 when and how to submit this information.**

2. What are the "self-certification categories"?

There are **four categories** of commercial vehicle operation per the new FMCSA rules. CDL Holders must determine which category they are in. One of the following categories must be declared:

- Excepted Interstate (Driving outside of Idaho, does not need a DOT medical card)
- Excepted Intrastate (Idaho driving only, does not need a DOT medical card)
- Non-excepted Interstate (Driving outside of Idaho, must have a DOT medical card)
- Non-excepted Intrastate (Idaho driving only, must have a DOT medical card)

Drivers must self-certify by **July 15, 2013**.

3. What happens if I don't "self-certify"?

ITD will notify you by US mail that you are no longer medically certified to operate a commercial motor vehicle in non-excepted Interstate commerce. ITD will then remove all CDL privileges from your license. This will not affect your Class D privileges to operate a non-commercial vehicle.

4. I have a valid Idaho CDL and a valid DOT Medical card. Do I still have to "self-certify"?

Yes. All CDL holders must self-certify their commercial vehicle operating category to ITD by July 15, 2013.

5. I have a CDL and drive Interstate, but I don't think I need a DOT physical for the driving I do. What category should I declare?

Idaho CDL holders operate in excepted interstate commerce when they drive a commercial motor vehicle in interstate commerce only for the following excepted activities:

- As Federal, State or local government employees;
- To transport human corpses or sick or injured persons;
- Fire truck or rescue vehicle drivers during emergencies and other related activities;
- Certain vehicles transporting propane winter heating fuel when responding to an emergency;
- Certain vehicles responding to a pipeline emergency such as a pipeline leak or rupture;
- In custom harvesting on a farm or to transport farm machinery and supplies used in the custom harvesting operation to and from a farm or to transport custom harvested crops to storage or market;
- Beekeeper in the seasonal transportation of bees;
- Certain farm vehicles controlled and operated by a farmer, but is not a combination vehicle (power unit and towed unit), and is used to transport agricultural products, farm machinery or farm supplies (no placardable hazardous materials) to and from a farm and within 150 air-miles of the farm;
- As a private motor carrier of passengers for non-business purposes ; or
- To transport migrant workers.

6. I only operate in the State of Idaho and haul only exempt commodities that do not require me to have a DOT physical. What category should I declare?

Drivers who operate a commercial motor vehicle:

- only within Idaho
- only transporting exempt commodities
- where the driver is not required to have a DOT Medical card (See [Appendix A](#) at the end of this list for a complete list of regulated and exempt commodities)
- may declare their driving category as "Excepted-Intrastate"
- **Note:** If you declare your status as Idaho only (Intrastate Excepted or Non Excepted) a "K" restriction will be placed on your CDL. This permits operation of a commercial vehicle ONLY in Idaho. Any Driver who possibly may be operating across state lines should declare "Non-excepted Interstate" as their category.

7. I have a CDL, but I only run farm trucks in Idaho. I don't have a DOT Medical Card. What category should I declare?

Drivers who are not required to maintain a DOT Medical card under the Farm Exemption, and who ONLY operate in Idaho, may declare their status "Excepted-Intrastate".

- **Note:** If you declare your status as Idaho only (Intrastate Excepted or Non Excepted) a "K" restriction will be placed on your CDL. This permits operation of a commercial vehicle ONLY in Idaho. Any Driver who possibly may be operating across state lines should declare "Non-excepted Interstate" as their category.

8. I only operate in the State of Idaho but my employer requires me to have a DOT Medical card. What category am I in?

Drivers who:

- only operate a commercial motor vehicle in Idaho
- are required to have a DOT Medical Card
- may declare their driving category as “Non-excepted Intrastate”.

Note: If you declare your category as Idaho only (Intrastate Excepted or Non Excepted) a “K” restriction will be placed on your CDL. This permits operation of a commercial vehicle ONLY in Idaho. Any Driver who possibly may be operating across state lines should declare “Non-excepted Interstate” as their category.

9. I declared my category as Non-Excepted Intrastate. Now I have a “K” Restriction on my CDL. What is that?

If you declare your driving category as Idaho only (Intrastate Exempt or Non Exempt) you will have a “K” restriction placed on your CDL. This restricts you to operating a commercial vehicle ONLY in Idaho.

10. How do I get the “K” restriction removed if I am changing to interstate operation?

Drivers who wish to remove the restriction will have to self-certify as operating in an interstate category and submit a medical card if they intend to operate in a non-excepted category. If the “K” restriction has been printed on their CDL, they will have to pay for a new license to be issued.

11. Sometimes I drive a commercial vehicle Interstate but mostly I operate in Idaho. I maintain my DOT Physical. What category should I declare?

Drivers who operate in Non-Excepted Interstate commerce AT ANY TIME should choose the “Non-excepted Interstate” driving category.

12. I want to keep my CDL but I am not driving a commercial vehicle right now. What do I do?

Drivers who are not maintaining a DOT Medical Card and who are not currently operating a commercial motor vehicle may declare their self-certification in a category that does not require a medical certificate (Excepted Interstate or Intrastate). If the driver later wishes to drive a Commercial Motor Vehicle in a non-excepted category, it will be necessary to obtain a DOT Medical and change to a non-excepted status.

NOTE: If you declare your category as Idaho only (Intrastate Excepted or Non Excepted) you will have a “K” restriction placed on your CDL. This restricts you to operating a commercial vehicle ONLY in Idaho. Any Driver who possibly may be operating across state lines should declare “Non-excepted Interstate” as their category.

13. I forgot to “Self Certify” ... How can I get back my Commercial privileges?

Drivers who have not declared a driving category will have CDL privileges withdrawn. It will then be necessary to complete the self-certification process and contact ITD Driver Services at (208) 334-8735 to reinstate Commercial driving privileges.

14. I don't use my CDL anymore, and I don't have a DOT Medical card. Do I still have to "Self Certify"?

Yes. All Idaho Commercial Driver's License holders must complete this process whether currently driving a commercial vehicle or not.

A Commercial Driver's License can be exchanged for a Class D (non-commercial) driver's license at any County Sheriff's Office Driver's License office. However, if the driver later needs a Commercial Driver's License, he or she must re-take all knowledge and skills tests required to obtain a new Commercial Driver's License.

15. Why do you need a copy of my DOT Medical card?

New Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration rules require drivers operating in certain types of commerce to submit a current copy of their DOT Medical Card to ITD to obtain a "certified" medical status as part of their driving record. This program is under development at ITD and reporting requirements will soon be announced.

16. Where do I send a copy of my DOT Medical card?

Currently ITD is unable to collect and process DOT Medical Card information. In the near future (the Fall of 2013) ITD will begin collecting this information. CDL holders will be notified by mail when and how to submit DOT medical card information.

17. When should I send ITD a copy of my DOT Medical card?

Not yet. As soon as ITD is able to collect and process that information, drivers will be notified by US Mail of reporting requirements and this web page will be updated with current information.

18. What if I already sent ITD a copy of my DOT medical card?

Many drivers have already submitted copies of their DOT Medical Cards. We appreciate your efforts to be compliant with the new rules. Unfortunately, any DOT Medical information submitted early was shredded because an approved method of storing that information was not yet available.

19. Do I still have to carry my DOT Medical Card?

Yes. Until the FMCSA program is fully implemented, we recommend all Commercial Drivers :

- provide a copy of the long form Medical Examiner's Certificate to their employer for their driver qualification file.
- carry their paper DOT Medical card with their CDL while driving a commercial motor vehicle.

20. How will I be notified when and where to submit my medical card information?

The program to collect medical card data is under development and will be announced to all Idaho CDL holders in the near future. CDL holders will be sent a letter via US Mail instructing drivers how to comply with the new program. It is important that a driver's mailing address information be kept current with the department.

21. Can't I send my medical card in now?

No. ITD currently cannot accept this information. Anyone who has already sent medical information to ITD will have to re-submit it when the program is announced. Any medical information sent to ITD has been shredded and destroyed.

22. I have a CDL and I keep my DOT Medical card current, but I'm not driving a commercial vehicle at this time. What driving category should I certify?

If you keep your DOT physical current and think you might want to drive on short notice, you can declare your status in one of the Non-Excepted categories. We recommend "Interstate Non-excepted" if there is any possibility you will operate a commercial motor vehicle in Interstate commerce. This is the "least restrictive" category and will NOT result in a "K" restriction (Intrastate Commercial Only) being placed on your license.

23. Can my family doctor perform my DOT Physical?

Under current laws, any physician can perform a DOT Physical examination and sign the medical card. DOT Medical Examination forms can be found on the FMCSA website.

24. What changes are coming for DOT Physicals?

Physicians who wish to conduct DOT physicals will have to be certified by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration. This rule is scheduled to go into effect May 21, 2014. After that date, only FMCSA certified physicians can conduct a DOT Physical examination.

Appendix A: Regulated and Exempt Commodities-

Exempt Commodities do not require DOT Medical Certification to transport within Idaho - *from Idaho State Police Commercial Vehicle Safety*

| Commodity | Regulated / Exempt |
|---|---------------------------|
| Asphalt - (a grade of oil), also Road mix | Regulated |
| Automobiles & Trucks - New and used | Regulated |
| Backhoes (equipment & like equipment) | Regulated |
| Bank documents | Regulated |
| Bark (decorative) | Regulated |
| Bedding Plants | Exempt |
| Beer & Pop (Soda) | Regulated |
| Bees (apiary) | Exempt |
| Beet Pulp (for dairy feed) | Exempt |
| Bones (animal) | Regulated |
| Building Materials | Regulated |
| Cement (dry, bulk, & bagged) | Regulated |
| Cheese | Regulated |
| Chemicals (dry, liquid, Bulk, & bagged) | Regulated |
| Christmas Trees | Exempt |
| Cider (apple & vinegar) | Regulated |
| Cinder blocks | Regulated |
| Clay | Exempt |
| Coal | Exempt |
| Compost (soil aid) | Exempt |
| Concrete (pre-cast) | Regulated |
| Concrete (wet) | Regulated |
| Concrete Products | Regulated |
| Containers (crates & boxes) | Regulated |
| Corn Starch | Regulated |
| Cream & butter (bulk) | Regulated |
| Dirt (equipment towed behind the truck to unload the dirt is regulated) | Exempt |
| Dirt (contaminated) | Regulated |
| Drilling Fluids | Regulated |
| Explosives | Regulated |
| Express & small Packages | Regulated |
| Farm Equipment (other than farm owner) | Regulated |
| Fats (animal) | Regulated |
| Fertilizer (dry, liquid, Bulk, & bagged) | Regulated |
| Firewood | Exempt |
| Fish (Live fish in tanks) | Exempt |
| Flowers (cut) | Regulated |
| Fruits (fresh) | Exempt |
| Fruits (processed) | Regulated |
| Furniture (moving & storage) | Exempt |

| Commodity | Regulated / Exempt |
|---|-----------------------------|
| Furniture (from factory or store, unless paid for by customer) | Regulated |
| Fur Bearing Animals | Exempt |
| Garbage (refuse / trash) | Regulated |
| Grain | Exempt |
| Grass (sod) | Exempt |
| Gravel (Equipment towed behind the truck to unload the gravel is regulated) | Exempt |
| Gypsum | Regulated |
| Hazardous Waste | Regulated (requires permit) |
| Hay (alfalfa) | Exempt |
| Heavy Equipment | Regulated |
| Heavy Hauling | Regulated |
| Hides | Regulated |
| Hogged Fuel | Regulated |
| Honey (processed) | Regulated |
| Hops | Exempt |
| Horses (riding, show, race, & rodeo) | Exempt |
| Houses/building | Regulated |
| Household Goods | Exempt |
| Humus | Exempt |
| Insecticide | Regulated |
| Insulation | Regulated |
| Lava | Regulated |
| Livestock | Exempt |
| Livestock Feed/Silage | Exempt |
| Liquor | Regulated |
| Logging Equipment | Regulated |
| Logs | Exempt |
| Lumber & lumber Products | Regulated |
| Machinery | Regulated |
| Mail | Exempt |
| Masonry | Regulated |
| Manure (fresh, dry, & dehydrated) | Exempt |
| Manure (with additives) | Regulated |
| Meat & meat products | Regulated |
| Mercer Authority (oil field Equipment & supplies) | Regulated |
| Metal & metal products | Regulated |
| Milk (bulk) | Exempt |
| Milk (packaged) | Regulated |
| Minerals (mined, unprocessed, Ore only) | Exempt |
| Minerals (concentrated, processed) | Regulated |
| Mining Equipment | Regulated |

| Commodity | Regulated / Exempt |
|--|---------------------------|
| Mobile/Modular Homes | Exempt |
| Molasses (as livestock feed) | Exempt |
| Molasses | Regulated |
| Mushrooms (fresh) | Exempt |
| Newspapers & newsprint | Exempt |
| Nursery Stock (see individual items) | |
| Oil | Regulated |
| Onions (bulk) | Exempt |
| Onions (packaged commercially) | Regulated |
| Ores (raw products of the Mine) | Exempt |
| Ore Concentrate (processed) | Regulated |
| Office Supplies | Regulated |
| Pallets | Regulated |
| Paper Products | Regulated |
| Passengers & Baggage | Regulated |
| Pearl Dust | Regulated |
| Peeled Posts & Poles | Regulated |
| Pesticide | Regulated |
| Peat Moss (bulk) | Exempt |
| Peat Moss (bagged) | Regulated |
| Plastic Tanks | Regulated |
| Pet Food | Regulated |
| Petroleum Products | Regulated |
| Piling | Regulated |
| Pit Run | Exempt |
| Plant Mix (gravel mixed with Asphalt) | Regulated |
| Poles | Regulated |
| Potato Starch | Regulated |
| Potatoes (processed) | Regulated |
| Potatoes (seed) | Exempt |
| Potatoes (unprocessed) | Exempt |
| Potato Waste (used for cattle Feed) | Exempt |
| Poultry | Exempt |
| Recyclable Items | Regulated |
| Redi Mix (wet) | Regulated |
| Road Mix (hot mix, cold mix, Plant mix) | Regulated |
| Rock (Equipment towed behind the truck to unload the rocks is regulated) | Exempt |
| Rough Lumber | Regulated |
| Salt | Regulated |
| Salvaged Vehicles | Regulated |
| Sand (Equipment towed behind the truck to unload the sand is regulated) | Exempt |
| Sap (maple) | Exempt |

| Commodity | Regulated / Exempt |
|---|---------------------------|
| Sawdust | Regulated |
| Silage | Exempt |
| Soil Aid | Regulated |
| Scrap Iron | Regulated |
| Steel & Steel Products | Regulated |
| Sugar Beets | Exempt |
| Tallow | Regulated |
| Top Soil (Equipment towed behind the truck to unload the top soil is regulated) | Exempt |
| Waste Products | Regulated |
| Water | Regulated |
| Wheat (farm) | Exempt |
| Whey | Exempt |
| Wood | Regulated |
| Wood Chips | Regulated |
| Wood Pellets | Regulated |
| Wood Residuals | Regulated |
| Wood Shavings | Regulated |
| Worms | Exempt |