



MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
DRIVER AND VEHICLE SERVICES
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Commercial Driver License Medical Self-Certification FAQs

My CDL expires soon. What will I need to renew my license?

If your CDL expired on or after January 30, 2012, you will need to complete a **Commercial Driver's License Self-certification form** (PS33203) and submit it at the time of your renewal application.

Drivers certifying in Category 1 non-exempt interstate or Category 3 non-exempt intrastate commerce must also present a valid medical examiner's certificate and any waivers indicated on the certificate.

Who must complete a self-certification form?

All drivers that hold a class A, B or C commercial driver's license must complete and submit the **self-certification form** with every application process. The **self-certification form** is also required when updating medical examiner certificates and waivers. In Minnesota, this also includes all drivers with a school bus endorsement.

My CDL is valid until 2015 and I have a current medical examiner's certificate. With the new requirements, is there anything else I have to do?

You are required to complete a self-certification and if necessary, present a copy of your medical examiner's certificate and applicable waivers, by November 30, 2013 for current Minnesota CDL holders.

If my current job only requires me to operate intrastate, but I want the option to operate interstate, can I certify in Category 1 instead of 3 as long as I have a current medical examiner's certificate?

Drivers operating only in intrastate commerce but eligible for interstate commerce are advised to consider self-certifying in Category 1 non-exempt interstate commerce.

My CDL is valid until 2015, but my medical examiner's certificate expires in 2013. Will I be required to submit a new certificate before my next renewal?

Yes. Commercial drivers are required to maintain current medical information on their driving record. Failure to do so may result in no CDL privileges and downgrade to a class D license.

Can school bus companies/employers fax in all of the medical examiner certificates/waivers and self-certification forms for their drivers at once?

Yes, but each driver's information must be sent in a separate fax for proper sorting and document management. They should not send information and documents for all their drivers in just one fax.

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I am an independent operator who works for two different companies, a long haul trucking firm and a company involved in Apiarian Industries*. Which category should I certify under?

Since you will be operating, at times, in non-exempt interstate commerce for a long haul trucking firm, you must certify in Category 1, non-exempt interstate commerce and you must provide a current medical examiner's certificate and any applicable waivers.

**Beekeepers seasonally transporting bees – exempt from providing medical certification.*

I am a CDL holder in the military who has been deployed overseas and my medical examiner's certificate is going to expire prior to my return. What do I need to do?

If your CDL was valid at the time you entered the military, you are not required to do anything further until you are discharged. We recommend that you notify us of your military status. Send a written statement and a copy of your military ID card with your service entry date or a letter from your commanding officer verifying your service entry date and active duty status to: Driver and Vehicle Services, 445 Minnesota Street, St. Paul, MN 55101.

What if I change my medical or operating status and it is not time to renew my CDL license?

You will need to complete a new **self-certification form** (PS33203), and submit it with a copy of your current medical examiner's certificate and necessary waivers if applicable.

- **By fax:** (651) 297-4447
- **By mail:** Driver and Vehicle Services, 445 Minnesota Street, Suite 180, St. Paul, MN 55101-5180
- **In person:** At any driver exam station or driver's license application office. For a list of locations visit: dps.mn.gov/divisions/dvs/locations/Pages/default.aspx

How do I obtain a medical examiner's certificate?

To obtain a medical examiner's certificate, a medical examiner must examine you. The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration defines "medical examiner" as a person who is licensed, certified and/or registered in accordance with applicable state laws and regulations, to perform physical examinations. The term includes, but is not limited to, doctors of medicine and osteopathy, advanced practice nurses, physician assistants and chiropractors. In some cases, your employer or prospective employer will make the arrangements.

The medical examiner that examines you must complete a [medical examination report](#) available on the DVS website Forms/Documents/Manuals page and certify that you meet the federal qualifications included in [Section 391.41\(b\) Title 49 CFR](#) (Federal Motor Carrier Regulations). The medical examiner will also complete, sign and give to you the medical examiner's certificate, noting any restrictions, including the need for a waiver.

A medical examiner's certificate can be valid for up to two years; the person who examines you will determine the card's expiration date.

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How do I obtain a federal (interstate) exemption or waiver?

If you don't meet certain physical or medical standards included in [Section 391.41\(b\) Title 49 CFR](#) (Code of Federal Regulations), you may be able to continue driving interstate if you qualify for a federal exemption or waiver. Federal exemptions or waivers can be granted for the following:

- Loss of limb or limb impairment (exemption) - see [Section 391.41\(b\)\(1\) or \(2\) of Title 49 CFR](#)
- Diabetes (waiver) - see [Section 391.41\(b\)\(3\) of Title 49 CFR](#)
- Vision problems (exemption) - see [Section 391.41\(b\)\(10\) of Title 49 CFR](#)

To obtain a federal exemption or waiver, you must contact the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (www.fmcsa.dot.gov) which will provide information on how to proceed.

- Diabetes/Vision waivers: www.fmcsa.dot.gov/rules-regulations/topics/medical/exemptions.htm
- Skill Performance: www.fmcsa.dot.gov/rules-regulations/topics/medical/spepackage.htm
- FMCSA Phone: 1 (800) 832-5660
- FMCSA Midwestern Service Center: (708) 283-3577

How do I obtain a Minnesota (intrastate) exemption or waiver?

If you operate intrastate, you may be eligible for a waiver from the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT), but this restricts your driving to intrastate commerce.

For information about MnDOT waivers, contact the MnDOT Driver Medical Program: (651) 366-3674 or visit their website at: www.dot.state.mn.us/cvo/medicalwaivers.html.

If a Commercial Motor Vehicle (CMV) driver has a lapse in their medical, do they have to retake the CDL test?

If the CDL is downgraded because of failure to submit the required medical examiner's certificate, the driver may reinstate their CDL and endorsements **within one year**, by submitting a valid medical examiner's certificate with the self-certification form. If downgraded or voluntarily surrendered for **more than one year**, the driver must retake the applicable CDL knowledge and road tests and reapply for the CDL.