retention in the driver’s qualification file, or keep a copy in his/her driver’s qualification file if he/she is self-employed. The driver must have a copy of the certification when driving, for presentation to a duly authorized Federal, State, or local enforcement official.

Discussion of Comments

FMCSA received one comment in this proceeding. The comment is discussed below.

Pam Johnson is in favor of granting Darryl Johnson an exemption.

Conclusion

Based upon its evaluation of the 38 exemption applications, FMCSA exempts Ernest J. Bachman (PA), A. Wayne Barker (OK), Edgar G. Baxter (FL), Jason W. Bowers (OR), Scott Brady (FL), Ronald A. Cleaver, Jr. (SC), Eric V. DeFrancesco (PA), Matthew A. Eck (PA), David E. Ferris (PA), George M. Hapchuk (PA), James L. Hawthorne (TX), John K. Ivey (NC), Darryl H. Johnson (WV), David Jones (FL), Thomas L. Kitchen (VA), Wayne C. Knighton (NV), Brandon C. Koopman (NE), David G. Lamborn (ND), Robert A. Marks (WV), Stephen R. Marshall (MS), Edgar H. Meraz (NM), Ralph Reno (NJ), Glennis R. Reynolds (KY), Joseph B. Saladino (FL), Carlos M. Saravia (MD), Glen M. Schulz (IA), Steve W. Scott (SC), Eugene D. Self, Jr. (NC), Darren B. Shields (NV), Roye T. Skelton (MS), Robert D. Smienski (OH), Justin T. Swires (WY), Robert Thomas (PA), Clifford B. Thompson, Jr. (SC), Donald L. Upson (OH), Steven M. Veloz (CA), Stephen H. Ward (MO), Janusz K. Wis (IL) from the vision requirement in 49 CFR 391.41(b)(10), subject to the requirements cited above (49 CFR 391.64(b)).

In accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315, each exemption will be valid for 2 years unless revoked earlier by FMCSA. The exemption will be revoked if: (1) The person fails to comply with the terms and conditions of the exemption; (2) the exemption has resulted in a lower level of safety than was maintained before it was granted; or (3) continuation of the exemption would not be consistent with the goals and objectives of 49 U.S.C. 31136 and 31315.

If the exemption is still effective at the end of the 2-year period, the person may apply to FMCSA for a renewal under procedures in effect at that time.

Issued on: December 16, 2013.

Larry W. Minor,
Associate Administrator for Policy.

[FR Doc. 2013–30718 Filed 12–23–13; 8:45 am]

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration


Qualification of Drivers; Exemption Applications; Vision

AGENCY: Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of renewal of exemptions; request for comments.

SUMMARY: FMCSA announces its decision to renew the exemptions from the vision requirement in the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations for 74 individuals. FMCSA has statutory authority to exempt individuals from the vision requirement if the exemptions granted will not compromise safety. The Agency has concluded that granting these exemption renewals will provide a level of safety that is equivalent to or greater than the level of safety maintained without the exemptions for these commercial motor vehicle (CMV) drivers.

DATES: This decision is effective January 31, 2014. Comments must be received on or before January 23, 2014.


FOUR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Elaine M. Papp, Chief, Medical Programs Division, 202–366–4001, fmcsamedical@dot.gov, FMCSA, Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Room W64–224, Washington, DC 20590–0001. Office hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Under 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315, FMCSA may renew an exemption from the vision requirements in 49 CFR 391.41(b)(10), which applies to drivers of CMVs in interstate commerce, for a two-year period if it finds “such exemption would likely achieve a level of safety that is equivalent to or greater than the level that would be achieved
absent such exemption.” The procedures for requesting an exemption (including renewals) are set out in 49 CFR part 381.

Exemption Decision

This notice addresses 74 individuals who have requested renewal of their exemptions in accordance with FMCSA procedures. FMCSA has evaluated these 74 applications for renewal on their merits and decided to extend each exemption for a renewable two-year period. They are:

- Stephan P. Adamczyk (ME)
- Martin R. Anaya (NM)
- Calvin D. Atwood (NM)
- Anthony D. Buck (TX)
- Shaun E. Burnett (IA)
- Kevin W. Cannon (TX)
- James J. Doan (PA)
- Garry L. Rogers (CO)
- Richard W. O’Neill (WA)
- James E. Knarr, Sr. (NY)
- Volga Kirkwood (MO)
- Nathaniel H. Herbert, Jr. (PA)
- Andrew B. Clayton (TN)
- William P. Doolittle (MO)
- Steve E. Duran (NM)
- Daniel W. Eynon (OH)
- James E. Fix (SC)
- Steve A. Goody (MA)
- Mark E. Gessner (FL)
- Matthew K. Hagge (ND)
- Larry L. Harris (OH)
- Penny D. Hatton, Jr. (NY)
- Dennis H. Heller (KS)
- Nathaniel H. Herbert, Jr. (PA)
- Volga Kirkwood (MO)
- James E. Knarr, Sr. (NY)
- Michael A. Lawson (KY)
- Everett H. Logan (OH)
- Joseph L. Mast (OR)
- Jesse R. McClary, Sr. (MO)
- Kevin L. Moody (OH)
- Marvin L. Motes (FL)
- Charles W. Mullenix (GA)
- Richard W. O’Neill (WA)
- Harold L. Pearsall (PA)
- John N. Poland (IL)
- James B. Prunty (VV)
- Garry L. Rogers (CO)
- Benjamin R. Sauder (PA)
- Robert E. Smith (CT)
- Gerald D. Stidham (CO)
- Scott C. Teich (MN)
- Virgil E. Walker (TX)
- John C. Wight (MO)
- Randy L. Huelster (OK)
- Roger D. Kloss (IL)
- Mark D. Kraft (IL)
- Steven R. Lechtenberg (NE)
- Thomas W. Markham (MN)
- Paul G. Mathes (WA)
- John T. McWilliams (IA)
- Terry W. Moore (LA)
- Jeffrey A. Mueller (IL)
- Steven D. O’Donnell (NJ)
- Terry J. Onrorkoff (WV)
- Robert M. Pickett II (MI)
- Phillip M. Pridgen, Sr. (MD)
- Eligio M. Ramirez (TX)
- Jason W. Rupp (PA)
- Eric W. Schmidt (MO)
- Jerry W. Stanfill (AR)
- Wilfred E. Sweat (NH)
- Roger L. Unser (OR)
- Gary M. Wolff (IL)
- John F. Zalar (NY)
- Jeffery A. Mueller (IL)
- Steven D. O’Donnell (NJ)
- Terry J. Onrorkoff (WV)
- Robert M. Pickett II (MI)
- Phillip M. Pridgen, Sr. (MD)
- Eligio M. Ramirez (TX)
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- Jerry W. Stanfill (AR)
- Wilfred E. Sweat (NH)
- Roger L. Unser (OR)
- Gary M. Wolff (IL)
- John F. Zalar (NY)

The exemptions are extended subject to the following conditions: (1) That each individual has a physical examination every year (a) by an ophthalmologist or optometrist who attests that the vision in the better eye continues to meet the requirements in 49 CFR 391.41(b)(10), and (b) by a medical examiner who attests that the individual is otherwise physically qualified under 49 CFR 391.41; (2) that each individual provides a copy of the ophthalmologist’s or optometrist’s report to the medical examiner at the time of the annual medical examination; and (3) that each individual provide a copy of the annual medical certification to the employer for retention in the driver’s qualification file and retains a copy of the certification on his/her person while driving for presentation to a duly authorized Federal, State, or local enforcement official. Each exemption will be valid for two years unless rescinded earlier by FMCSA. The exemption will be rescinded if: (1) The person fails to comply with the terms and conditions of the exemption; (2) the exemption has resulted in a lower level of safety than was maintained before it was granted; or (3) continuation of the exemption would not be consistent with the goals and objectives of 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315.

Basis for Renewing Exemptions

Under 49 U.S.C. 31315(b)(1), an exemption may be granted for no longer than two years from its approval date and may be renewed upon application for additional two year periods. In accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315, each of the 74 applicants has satisfied the entry conditions for obtaining an exemption from the vision requirements (64 FR 27027; 64 FR 40404; 64 FR 51568; 64 FR 66962; 66 FR 30502; 66 FR 41654; 66 FR 48504; 67 FR 17102; 68 FR 37197; 68 FR 44837; 68 FR 49198; 68 FR 52811; 68 FR 54775; 68 FR 61860; 69 FR 51346; 70 FR 17504; 70 FR 30997; 70 FR 30999; 70 FR 41811; 70 FR 42615; 70 FR 46567; 70 FR 48797; 70 FR 50799; 70 FR 53412; 70 FR 61165; 70 FR 61493; 71 FR 32183; 71 FR 41310; 71 FR 50970; 72 FR 8417; 72 FR 36099; 72 FR 39879; 72 FR 40359; 72 FR 40360; 72 FR 40362; 72 FR 52419; 72 FR 52421; 73 FR 54971; 73 FR 58359; 73 FR 62896; 73 FR 48269; 73 FR 60398; 74 FR 11988; 74 FR 21427; 74 FR 26461; 74 FR 34074; 74 FR 34394; 74 FR 34395; 74 FR 34630; 74 FR 37295; 74 FR 41971; 74 FR 43217; 74 FR 43221; 74 FR 46343; 74 FR 46069; 75 FR 35851; 75 FR 57551; 75 FR 57863; 76 FR 2190; 76 FR 21796; 76 FR 25766; 76 FR 34135; 76 FR 34136; 76 FR 37168; 76 FR 37885; 76 FR 40445; 76 FR 44652; 76 FR 49528; 76 FR 53708; 76 FR 53710; 76 FR 54530; 76 FR 55463; 76 FR 55465; 76 FR 55467; 76 FR 55469; 76 FR 61143; 76 FR 62143; 76 FR 64171; 76 FR 66123; 76 FR 67246). Each of these 74 applicants has requested renewal of the exemption and has submitted evidence showing that the vision in the better eye continues to meet the requirement specified at 49 CFR 391.41(b)(10) and that the vision impairment is stable. In addition, a review of each record of safety while driving with the respective vision deficiencies over the past two years indicates each applicant continues to meet the vision exemption requirements.

These factors provide an adequate basis for predicting each driver’s ability to continue to drive safely in interstate commerce. Therefore, FMCSA concludes that extending the exemption for each renewal applicant for a period of two years is likely to achieve a level of safety equal to that existing without the exemption.

Request for Comments

FMCSA will review comments received at any time concerning a particular driver’s safety record and determine if the continuation of the exemption is consistent with the requirements at 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315. However, FMCSA requests that interested parties with specific data concerning the safety records of these drivers submit comments by January 23, 2014.

FMCSA believes that the requirements for a renewal of an exemption under 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315 can be satisfied by initially granting the renewal and then requesting and evaluating, if needed, subsequent comments submitted by interested parties. As indicated above, the Agency previously published notices of final disposition announcing its decision to exempt these 74 individuals from the vision requirement.
in 49 CFR 391.41(b)(10). The final decision to grant an exemption to each of these individuals was made on the merits of each case and made only after careful consideration of the comments received to its notices of applications. The notices of applications stated in detail the qualifications, experience, and medical condition of each applicant for an exemption from the vision requirements. That information is available by consulting the above cited Federal Register publications.

Federal Register. Interested parties or organizations possessing information that would otherwise show that any, or all, of these drivers are not currently achieving the statutory level of safety should immediately notify FMCSA. The Agency will evaluate any adverse evidence submitted and, if safety is being compromised or if continuation of the exemption would not be consistent with the goals and objectives of 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315, FMCSA will take immediate steps to revoke the exemption of a driver.

Submitting Comments
You may submit your comments and material online or by fax, mail, or hand delivery, but please use only one of these means. FMCSA recommends that you include your name and a mailing address, an email address, or a phone number in the body of your document so that FMCSA can contact you if there are questions regarding your submission.


Issued on: December 17, 2013.

Larry W. Minor,
Associate Administrator for Policy.

BILLING CODE 4910–EX–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

[FMCSA Docket No. FMCSA–2013–0184] [4910–EX–P]

Qualification of Drivers; Exemption Applications; Diabetes Mellitus

AGENCY: Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), DOT

ACTION: Notice of final disposition.

SUMMARY: FMCSA announces its decision to exempt 26 individuals from its rule prohibiting persons with insulin-treated diabetes mellitus (ITDM) from operating commercial motor vehicles (CMVs) in interstate commerce. The exemptions will enable these individuals to operate CMVs in interstate commerce.

DATES: The exemptions are effective December 24, 2013. The exemptions expire on December 24, 2015.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Elaine M. Papp, Chief, Medical Programs Division, (202) 366–4001, fmcsamedical@dot.gov, FMCSA, Room W64–224, Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590–0001. Office hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Electronic Access
You may see all the comments online through the Federal Document Management System (FDMS) at: http://www.regulations.gov. Docket: For access to the docket to read background documents or comments, go to http://www.regulations.gov and/or Room W12–140 on the ground level of the West Building, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

Privacy Act: Anyone may search the electronic form of all comments received into any of DOT’s docket by the name of the individual submitting the comment (or of the person signing the comment, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, or other entity). You may review DOT’s Privacy Act Statement for the Federal Docket Management System (FDMS) published in the Federal Register on January 17, 2008 (73 FR 3316).

Background
On October 28, 2013, FMCSA published a notice of receipt of Federal diabetes exemption applications from 26 individuals and requested comments from the public (78 FR 64267). The public comment period closed on November 27, 2013, and one comment was received.

FMCSA has evaluated the eligibility of the 26 applicants and determined that granting the exemptions to these individuals would achieve a level of safety equivalent to or greater than the level that would be achieved by complying with the current regulation 49 CFR 391.41(b)(3).

Diabetes Mellitus and Driving Experience of the Applicants
The Agency established the current requirement for diabetes in 1970 because several risk studies indicated that drivers with diabetes had a higher rate of crash involvement than the general population. The diabetes rule provides that “A person is physically qualified to drive a commercial motor vehicle if that person has no established medical history or clinical diagnosis of diabetes mellitus currently requiring insulin for control” (49 CFR 391.41(b)(3)).