DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration
[Docket No. FMCSA–2016–0161]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Extension of a Currently Approved Information Collection Request: Unified Registration System, FMCSA Registration/Updates.

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

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, FMCSA announces its plan to submit the Information Collection Request (ICR) described below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval. The information collection request (ICR) titled, “Unified Registration System” (78 FR 52608 dated August 23, 2013) required those entities that are subject to the FMCSA’s licensing, registration and certification regulations to use a new application Form MCSA–1 titled, “FMCSA Registration/Update(s).”

DATES: Please send your comments on or before November 14, 2016. OMB must receive your comments by this date in order to act quickly on the ICR.

ADDRESSES: All comments should reference Federal Docket Management System (FDMS) Docket Number FMCSA–2016–0161. Interested persons are invited to submit written comments on the proposed information collection to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget. Comments should be addressed to the attention of the Desk Officer, Department of Transportation/Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, and sent via electronic mail to oira_submission@omb.eop.gov, or faxed to (202) 395–6974, or mailed to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Docket Library, Room 10102, 725 17th Street NW., Washington, DC 20503.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Jeffrey Secrist, Office of Registration and Safety Information, Department of Transportation, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590–0001, Telephone Number: (202) 385–2367; Email Address: jeff.secrist@dot.gov. Office hours are from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., E.T., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Unified Registration System, FMCSA Registration/Updates.

OMB Control Number: 2126–0051. Type of Request: Extension of a currently-approved information collection.

Respondents: Motor carriers (including private and exempt for-hire carriers effective January 14, 2017), freight forwards, brokers, cargo tank (CT) facilities, and intermodal equipment providers (IEPs) that are required to register with the Agency and then maintain their safety and operating authority registrations with USDOT.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 78,400 respondents for initial registration filings; 507,500 respondents for completing the biennial update; 13,000 respondents for filing name/address change requests; 1,100 respondents for transfer of operating authority registration notifications; and 2,030 respondents for reinstatements of operating authority registration.

Estimated Time per Response: 1.34 hours for initial registration filings; and 10 minutes each for the biennial update, name/address change request, notification of transfer of operating authority registration, and reinstatement of revoked or inactive registration.

Expiration Date: November 30, 2016

Frequency of Response: This information collection covers the initial application to register with FMCSA as a motor carrier, freight forwarder, broker, intermodal equipment provider, and cargo tank facility; as well as subsequent applications to complete a biennial update or any other update of the information recorded on the registration system, submit a name/address change request, seek a reinstatement of revoked or inactive registration, and notify the Agency of a transfer of operating authority registration.

Estimated Total Annual Burden: 105,000 burden hours for the initial applications of registration; 84,600 burden hours for completing biennial updates; 2,200 burden hours for filing name/address change requests; 180 burden hours for operating authority registration transfer notifications; and 340 burden hours for reinstatements of revoked or inactive registration; for a total estimated annual burden of 192,320 hours.

Background: Section 103 of the ICC Termination Act of 1995 (ICCTA) enacted 49 U.S.C. 13908, which required the Secretary of Transportation (Secretary) to propose regulations to replace four current identification and registration systems with a single, online, Federal—Unified Registration System (URS). The Unified Carrier Registration Act of 2005, subtitle C of title IV of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA–LU) [Pub. L. 109–59, 119 Stat. 1714, August 10, 2005] modified the requirements for a unified registration system by amending §13908. In particular, SAFETEA–LU repealed the Single State Registration System (SSRS), one of the four systems identified in §13908, and replaced it with the Unified Carrier Registration Agreement. It also modified the requirement that fees collected under the new system cover the costs of operating and upgrading the registration by placing limitations on certain fees that the Agency could charge. Section 4304 of SAFETEA–LU reiterated the congressional requirement for a single, Federal online system to replace the four individual systems identified under 49 U.S.C. 13908. This consolidation simplifies current Federal registration processes and makes data on interstate motor carriers, property brokers, freight forwarders, and other regulated entities more accessible.

This information collection supports the DOT Strategic Goal of Safety. It will streamline the existing registration process and ensure that FMCSA can more efficiently track motor carriers, freight forwarders, brokers, and other entities regulated by the Agency.

The information on the on-line Form MCSA–1 will be used by FMCSA to identify its regulated entities, to help prioritize the Agency’s activities, to aid in assessing the safety outcomes of those activities and for statistical purposes. The FMCSA will collect the information electronically through on-line forms. The information is currently being collected through a series of forms, which may be filed on-line or on paper. Every interstate motor carrier operating commercial motor vehicles is required to register with FMCSA to obtain a USDOT Number. Most for-hire carriers are also required to file a separate application for operating authority under 49 U.S.C. 13901. Mexico- and Non-North America-domiciled motor carriers file a separate registration form. The information collection will replace these three collections and create a single on-line form. This rule will streamline the collection and eliminate the need for motor carriers to file the same information on multiple forms.

On June 10, 2016, FMCSA published a notice in the Federal Register requesting public comments on Unified Registration System, FMCSA Registration/Updates” Information Collection Request, OMB Control Number 2126–0051 (81 FR 37661). No comments were received.
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

[Docket No. FMCSA–2016–0007]

Qualification of Drivers; Exemption Applications; Epilepsy and Seizure Disorders

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

ACTION: Notice of applications for exemption; request for comments.

SUMMARY: FMCSA announces receipt of applications from 11 individuals for an exemption from the prohibition in the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (FMCSRs) against persons with a clinical diagnosis of epilepsy or any other condition that is likely to cause a loss of consciousness or any loss of ability to control a commercial motor vehicle (CMV) to drive in interstate commerce. If granted, the exemptions would enable these individuals who have had one or more seizures and are taking anti-seizure medication to operate CMVs in interstate commerce.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before November 14, 2016.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments bearing the Federal Docket Management System (FDMS) Docket No. FMCSA–2016–0007 using any of the following methods:

• Federal eRulemaking Portal: Go to http://www.regulations.gov. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.

• Mail: Docket Management Facility; U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., West Building Ground Floor, Room W12–140, Washington, DC 20590–0001.

• Hand Delivery: West Building Ground Floor, Room W12–140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays.

• Fax: 1–202–493–2251.

Instructions: Each submission must include the Agency name and the docket number(s) for this notice. Note that all comments received will be posted without change to http://www.regulations.gov, including any personal information provided. Please see the Privacy Act heading below for further information.

Docket: For access to the docket to read background documents or comments, go to http://www.regulations.gov at any time 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., e.t., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The FDMS is available 24 hours each day, 365 days each year. If you want acknowledgment that we received your comments, please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope or postcard or print the acknowledgement page that appears after submitting comments online.

Privacy Act: In accordance with 5 U.S.C. 553(c), DOT solicits comments from the public to better inform its rulemaking process. DOT posts these comments, without edit, including any personal information the commenter provides, to http://www.regulations.gov as described in the system records notice (DOT/ALL–14 FDMS), which can be reviewed at http://www.dot.gov/privacy.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Christine A. Hydock, 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 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., e.t., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. If you have questions regarding viewing or submitting material to the docket, contact Docket Services, telephone (202) 366–9826.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION:

I. Background

Under 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315, FMCSA may grant an exemption from the FMCSRs 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 statute also allows the Agency to renew exemptions at the end of the two-year period.

The 11 individuals listed in this notice have requested an exemption from the epilepsy prohibition in 49 CFR 391.41(b)(8). Accordingly, the Agency will evaluate the qualifications of each applicant to determine whether granting the exemption will achieve the required level of safety mandated by statute.

The physical qualification standard for drivers regarding epilepsy found in 49 CFR 391.41(b)(8) states that a person is physically qualified to drive a CMV if that person: Has no established medical history or clinical diagnosis of epilepsy or any other condition which is likely to cause the loss of consciousness or any loss of ability to control a CMV.

In addition to the regulations, FMCSA has published advisory criteria 1 to assist Medical Examiners in determining whether drivers with certain medical conditions are qualified to operate a CMV in interstate commerce. [49 CFR part 391, APPENDIX A TO PART 391—MEDICAL ADVISORY CRITERIA, section H. Epilepsy: § 391.41(b)(8), paragraphs 3, 4, and 5.]

The advisory criteria state the following:

If an individual has had a sudden episode of a non-epileptic seizure or loss of consciousness of unknown cause that did not require anti-seizure medication, the decision whether that person’s condition is likely to cause the loss of consciousness or loss of ability to control a CMV should be made on an individual basis by the Medical Examiner in consultation with the treating physician. Prior to considering certification, it is suggested there be a six-month waiting period from the time of the episode. Following the waiting period, it is suggested that the individual undergo a complete neurological examination. If the results of the examination are negative and anti-seizure medication is not required, the driver may be qualified.

In those individual cases where a driver had a seizure or an episode of loss of consciousness that resulted from a known medical condition (e.g., drug reaction, high temperature, acute infectious disease, dehydration, or acute metabolic disturbance), certification should be deferred until the driver has recovered fully from that condition, has