regarding intergovernmental consultation on Federal programs and activities apply to this program."


Issued on: March 26, 2019.

Ivan Marrero,
Division Administrator, Federal Highway Administration, Salt Lake City, Utah.

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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 final disposition.

SUMMARY: FMCSA announces its decision to renew exemptions for 71 individuals from the vision requirement in the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (FMCSRs) for interstate commercial motor vehicle (CMV) drivers. The exemptions enable these individuals to continue to operate CMVs in interstate commerce without meeting the vision requirement in one eye.

DATES: Each group of renewed exemptions were applicable on the dates stated in the discussions below and will expire on the dates stated in the discussions below.

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 from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., ET, 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.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Public Participation

A. Viewing Documents and Comments


II. Background

On February 6, 2019, FMCSA published a notice announcing its decision to renew exemptions for 71 individuals from the vision requirement in 49 CFR 391.41(b)(10) to operate a CMV in interstate commerce and requested comments from the public (84 FR 2311). The public comment period ended on March 8, 2019, and no comments were received.

As stated in the previous notice, FMCSA has evaluated the eligibility of these applicants and determined that renewing these exemptions 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)(10).

The physical qualification standard for drivers regarding vision found in 49 CFR 391.41(b)(10) states that a person is physically qualified to drive a CMV if that person has distant visual acuity of at least 20/40 (Snellen) in each eye without corrective lenses or visual acuity separately corrected to 20/40 (Snellen) or better with corrective lenses, distant binocular acuity of a least 20/40 (Snellen) in both eyes with or without corrective lenses, field of vision of at least 70° in the horizontal meridian in each eye, and the ability to recognize the colors of traffic signals and devices showing red, green, and amber.

III. Discussion of Comments

FMCSA received no comments in this preceding.

IV. Conclusion

Based on its evaluation of the 71 renewal exemption applications and comments received, FMCSA confirms its decision to exempt the following drivers from the vision requirement in 49 CFR 391.41(b)(10).

In accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315, the following groups of drivers received renewed exemptions in the month of January and are discussed below. As of January 3, 2019, and in accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315, the following 23 individuals have satisfied the renewal conditions for obtaining an exemption from the vision requirement in the FMCSRs for interstate CMV drivers (64 FR 54948; 65 FR 159; 65 FR 45817; 65 FR 77066; 66 FR 66969; 67 FR 71610; 69 FR 8260; 69 FR 17263; 69 FR 31447; 69 FR 53493; 69 FR 62742; 69 FR 64810; 71 FR 19604; 71 FR 27033; 71 FR 62147; 71 FR 62148; 72 FR 185; 73 FR 35194; 73 FR 35198; 73 FR 36954; 73 FR 36955; 73 FR 46973; 74 FR 48275; 75 FR 54889; 75 FR 61922; 75 FR 61923; 75 FR 63047; 75 FR 74563; 75 FR 74565; 75 FR 75806; 75 FR 75807; 75 FR 36779; 75 FR 44051; 75 FR 47083; 75 FR 50799; 75 FR 59327; 75 FR 63257; 75 FR 64396; 75 FR 65057; 75 FR 77590; 75 FR 77591; 75 FR 77949; 75 FR 77951; 75 FR 79081; 75 FR 5874; 77 FR 17109; 77 FR 17117; 77 FR 27845; 77 FR 38384; 77 FR 46153; 77 FR 60010; 77 FR 64582; 77 FR 64583; 77 FR 68202; 77 FR 70537; 77 FR 74736; 78 FR 41975; 78 FR 56086; 79 FR 18392; 79 FR 21996; 79 FR 29498; 79 FR 35220; 79 FR 38661; 79 FR 51643; 79 FR 56104; 79 FR 56117; 79 FR 59348; 79 FR 64001; 79 FR 65759; 79 FR 73689; 80 FR 48411; 81 FR 17237; 81 FR 28138; 81 FR 39320; 81 FR 59266; 81 FR 70253; 81 FR 71173; 81 FR 74494; 81 FR 80161; 81 FR 81230; 81 FR 96165; 81 FR 96191).

Robert J. Ambrose (MA)
Nathan A. Buckles (IN)

As of January 9, 2019, and in accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315, the following ten individuals have satisfied the renewal conditions for obtaining an exemption from the vision requirement in the FMCSRs for interstate CMV drivers (71 FR 63379; 72 FR 1051; 73 FR 78423; 75 FR 79083; 77 FR 74734; 79 FR 73686; 81 FR 96165):

- David L. Cattoor (NV)
- Arthur Dolengewicz (NY)
- Terrence L. McKinney (TX)
- Ellis T. McKneely (LA)
- Ronald C. Morris (NV)
- Steven M. Schofield (KY)
- David C. Stitt (KS)
- Kevin L. Truxell (FL)
- Bruce A. Walker (WI)
- Lee A. Williter (IL)

The drivers were included in docket number FMCSA–2006–26066. Their exemptions are applicable as of January 9, 2019, and will expire on January 9, 2021.

As of January 10, 2019, and in accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315, the following ten individuals have satisfied the renewal conditions for obtaining an exemption from the vision requirement in the FMCSRs for interstate CMV drivers (75 FR 69737; 76 FR 1499; 77 FR 74733; 79 FR 72756; 79 FR 73397; 80 FR 9304; 81 FR 96165):

- Robert K. Ipock (NC)
- Perry D. Jensen (WI)
- Jesse L. Lichtenberger (PA)
- James G. Pitchford (OH)
- Frederick E. Schaub (IA)
- Michael G. Somma (NY)
- Jason E. Thomas (ND)
- Richard L. Totels (TX)
- Diane L. Wedebread (IA)

The drivers were included in docket numbers FMCSA–2010–0287; FMCSA–2014–0299. Their exemptions are applicable as of January 10, 2019, and will expire on January 10, 2021.

As of January 12, 2019, and in accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315, the following ten individuals have satisfied the renewal conditions for obtaining an exemption from the vision requirement in the FMCSRs for interstate CMV drivers (65 FR 45817; 65 FR 75230; 67 FR 67234; 69 FR 53493; 69 FR 62741; 69 FR 64742; 71 FR 62148; 73 FR 61925; 73 FR 74565; 75 FR 59327; 75 FR 66423; 75 FR 72863; 76 FR 2190; 77 FR 68199; 77 FR 74273; 79 FR 73687; 81 FR 96165):

- Timothy Bradford (TN)
- Douglas K. Esp (MT)
- Donald L. Hamrick (KS)
- Gary L. Killian (NC)
- Thomas L. Oglesby (GA)
- Preston S. Salisbury (MT)
- Kevin W. Schaffer (IL)
- George A. Teti (FL)
- David W. Ward (NC)
- Ralph W. York (NM)

The drivers were included in docket numbers FMCSA–2000–7006; FMCSA–2004–18885; FMCSA–2010–0354. Their exemptions are applicable as of January 12, 2019, and will expire on January 12, 2021.

As of January 13, 2019, and in accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315, the following four individuals have satisfied the renewal conditions for obtaining an exemption from the vision requirement in the FMCSRs for interstate CMV drivers (65 FR 45817; 65 FR 77066; 67 FR 46016; 67 FR 57267; 67 FR 71610; 69 FR 71098; 71 FR 63379; 72 FR 1050; 72 FR 1054; 73 FR 78421; 75 FR 79079; 77 FR 76166; 79 FR 73687; 81 FR 96165):

- David S. Brumfield (KY)
- Arthur A. Sappington (IN)
- William H. Smith (AL)
- Edward C. Williams (AL)


As of January 14, 2019, and in accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315, the following three individuals have satisfied the renewal conditions for obtaining an exemption from the vision requirement in the FMCSRs for interstate CMV drivers (69 FR 64806; 70 FR 2705; 72 FR 1056; 73 FR 76439; 75 FR 79064; 77 FR 75496; 79 FR 74169; 81 FR 96165):

- Christopher L. Depuy (OH)
- Larry J. Folkerts (IA)
- Francis M. McMullin (PA)

The drivers were included in docket number FMCSA–2004–19477. Their exemptions are applicable as of January 14, 2019, and will expire on January 14, 2021.

As of January 17, 2019, and in accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315, the following four individuals have satisfied the renewal conditions for obtaining an exemption from the vision requirement in the FMCSRs for interstate CMV drivers (67 FR 68719; 68 FR 2629; 69 FR 71100; 72 FR 1053; 73 FR 76440; 75 FR 80887; 77 FR 76167; 79 FR 74168; 81 FR 96165):

- Howard F. Breitkreutz (MN)
- John E. Evenson (WI)
- Craig M. Landry (LA)
- Kenneth E. Vigue, Jr. (WA)

The drivers were included in docket number FMCSA–2002–12844. Their exemptions are applicable as of January 17, 2019, and will expire on January 17, 2021.

As of January 31, 2019, and in accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315, the following seven individuals have satisfied the renewal conditions for obtaining an exemption from the vision requirement in the FMCSRs for interstate CMV drivers (69 FR 17263; 69 FR 31447; 70 FR 43557; 72 FR 42403; 73 FR 38602; 75 FR 72863; 75 FR 77492; 76 FR 2190; 76 FR 5425; 78 FR 800; 80 FR 603; 81 FR 96165):

- Gary S. Alvarez (MA)
- Brett K. Hasty (GA)
- Garry D. Layton (TN)
- Rocky D. Moorhead (NM)
- Myron A. Smith (MN)
- Jose M. Suarez (PA)
- Richard L. Zacher (OR)


In accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31315, each exemption will be valid for two years from the effective date unless revoked earlier by FMCSA. The exemption will be revoked if the following occurs: (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 prior to being granted;
or (3) continuation of the exemption would not be consistent with the goals and objectives of 49 U.S.C. 31136 and 31315.

Issued on: March 22, 2019.
Larry W. Minor,
Associate Administrator for Policy.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration


If you submit your comments by mail or hand delivery, submit them in an unbound format, no larger than 8½ by 11 inches, suitable for copying and electronic filing. If you submit comments by mail and would like to know that they reached the facility, please enclose a stamped, self-addressed postcard or envelope.

FMCSA will consider all comments and material received during the comment period.