received during the comment period and may grant or not grant this application based on your comments.

II. Legal Basis

FMCSA has authority under 49 U.S.C. 31315(e) and 31315 to grant exemptions from certain parts of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (FMCSRs). FMCSA is required to publish notice of exemption requests in the Federal Register (49 U.S.C. 31315(b)(6)(A)). This notice seeks public comment on the request posted to the docket referred to above; the Agency takes no position on its merits. FMCSA will review the request and all comments submitted to the docket before deciding whether to grant or deny the exemption.

Harris’ Application for Exemption

Harris, a family-owned and operated company comprised of an elevator division and an electric division, applied for an exemption from 49 CFR 395.8. The exemption would cover the company’s 14 elevator technicians and seven general laborers and welders that operate CMVs. The company currently uses electronic devices to document hours of service and requested the exemption to allow it to resume the use of paper RODS. A copy of the application is included in the docket referenced at the beginning of this notice.

Request for Comments

In accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31315(b)(6), FMCSA requests public comment from all interested persons on Harris’ application for an exemption from the ELD requirements. All comments received before the close of business on the comment closing date indicated at the beginning of this notice will be considered and will be available for examination in the docket at the location listed under the ADDRESSES section of this notice. Comments received after the comment closing date will be filed in the public docket and will be considered to the extent practicable. In addition to late comments, FMCSA will also continue to file, in the public docket, relevant information that becomes available after the comment closing date. Interested persons should continue to examine the public docket for new material.

Issued on: December 5, 2019.

Larry W. Minor, Associate Administrator for Policy.

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 exemptions for 90 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 requirements 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. Comments must be received on or before January 13, 2020.


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

• Mail: Docket Operations; 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., ET, Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

• Fax: (202) 493–2251.

To avoid duplication, please use only one of these four methods. See the “Public Participation” portion of the SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION section for instructions on submitting comments.

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 W04–224, 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 Operations, (202) 366–9826.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Public Participation

A. Submitting Comments

If you submit a comment, please include the docket number for this notice (Docket No. FMCSA–1999–6156; FMCSA–1999–6480; FMCSA–2000–...
B. Viewing Documents and Comments


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

C. 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 comment provides, to www.regulations.gov, as described in the system of records notice (DOT/ALL–14 FDMS), which can be reviewed at www.dot.gov/privacy.

II. Background

Under 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315(b), FMCSA may grant an exemption from the FMCSR for no longer than a 5-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 5-year period. FMCSA grants medical exemptions from the FMCSR for a 2-year period to align with the maximum duration of a driver’s medical certification.

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.

The 90 individuals listed in this notice have requested renewal of their exemptions from the vision standard in § 391.41(b)(10), in accordance with FMCSA procedures. Accordingly, FMCSA has evaluated these applications for renewal on their merits and decided to extend each exemption for a renewable 2-year period.

III. Request for Comments

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(b), FMCSA will take immediate steps to revoke the exemption of a driver.

IV. Basis for Renewing Exemptions

In accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315(b), each of the 90 applicants has satisfied the renewal conditions for obtaining an exemption from the vision standard (see 57 FR 57266; 64 FR 54948; 64 FR 68195; 65 FR 159; 65 FR 20251; 65 FR 57230; 66 FR 17743; 66 FR 33990;
66 FR 53826; 66 FR 66966; 66 FR 66969;
67 FR 17102; 68 FR 35772; 68 FR 52811;
68 FR 61860; 68 FR 69432; 68 FR 69434;
69 FR 62741; 70 FR 30999; 70 FR 33937;
70 FR 46567; 70 FR 48801; 70 FR 53412;
70 FR 57533; 70 FR 61165; 70 FR 71884;
70 FR 72689; 70 FR 74102; 71 FR 644;
71 FR 4632; 71 FR 14566; 71 FR 30227;
72 FR 62147; 72 FR 32705; 72 FR 39879;
72 FR 40359; 72 FR 52419; 72 FR 52421;
72 FR 58359; 72 FR 62897; 72 FR 64273;
72 FR 67340; 72 FR 71995; 73 FR 1395;
73 FR 5259; 73 FR 20245; 73 FR 27014;
73 FR 75806; 74 FR 26461; 74 FR 26464;
74 FR 34074; 74 FR 34630; 74 FR 37295;
74 FR 40909; 74 FR 43217; 74 FR 48343;
74 FR 49302; 74 FR 50917; 74 FR 58262; 83 FR 2289;
83 FR 2306; 83 FR 3861; 83 FR 4537;
83 FR 6922; 83 FR 15232).

Therefore, FMCSA concludes that extending the exemption for each renewal applicant for a period of 2 years is likely to achieve a level of safety equal to that existing without the exemption.

In accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315(b), the following groups of drivers received renewed exemptions in the month of January and are discussed below. As of January 3, 2020, and in accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315(b), the following 51 individuals have satisfied the renewal conditions for obtaining an exemption from the vision requirement in the FMCSRs for interstate CMV drivers (57 FR 57266; 64 FR 54948; 64 FR 68195; 65 FR 159; 65 FR 20251; 65 FR 57230; 66 FR 17743; 66 FR 33990; 66 FR 53826; 66 FR 69666; 66 FR 66969; 66 FR 17102; 68 FR 35772; 68 FR 52811; 80 FR 59230; 80 FR 59243; 80 FR 59245; 80 FR 59247; 80 FR 14240; 80 FR 16500; 80 FR 31636; 80 FR 33324; 80 FR 37718; 83 FR 44188; 83 FR 48402; 83 FR 48413; 83 FR 49302; 83 FR 50917; 83 FR 51818; 83 FR 62161; 83 FR 66969; 83 FR 67472; 83 FR 67476; 83 FR 67481; 83 FR 67481; 83 FR 70060; 83 FR 70087; 83 FR 71884; 83 FR 32919; 83 FR 37499; 83 FR 43647; 83 FR 47312; 83 FR 58262; 83 FR 2306; 83 FR 3861; 83 FR 4537; 83 FR 6922; 83 FR 15232).

They have submitted evidence showing that the vision in the better eye continues to meet the requirement specified at § 391.41(b)(10) and that the vision impairment is stable. A review of each record of safety while driving with the respective vision deficiencies over the past 2 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.

Michael D. Champion (VT)
Ryan M. Coelho (RI)
David J. Comeaux (LA)
Duane C. Conway (NV)
William J. Corder (NC)
Jose C. Costa (WA)
Thomas R. Crocker (SC)
Kenneth D. Daniels (PA)
James D. Davis (OH)
Brad M. Donald (MI)
Dominic F. Giordano (CT)
Jeffrey A. Keefer (OH)
Martin D. Keough (NY)
Perus W. Kilis Enemey At Night (SD)
Richard L. Loefelholz (WI)
Herman G. Lovell (OR)
Thomas P. Malo (MA)
Herman C. Mash (NC)
Christopher V. May (GA)
James F. McMahon, Jr. (NH)
Terry W. Moore (LA)
Steven D. O’Donnell (NJ)
Dennis R. Ohl (MO)
John R. Price (AR)
Francis D. Reginald (NJ)
Danilo A. Rivera (MD)
Michael J. Robinson (WV)
Ronald L. Roy (IL)
Ralph J. Schmitt (CO)
Jarrod R. Seirer (KS)
Eugene D. Self, Jr. (NC)
Levi A. Shelter (OH)
Roye T. Skelton (MS)
Paul D. Stoddard (NY)
Stanley W. Tyler, Jr. (NC)
Cesar Villa-Navarrete (NM)
James H. Wallace, Sr. (FL)
Stephen H. Ward (MO)
Dennis E. White (PA)
Lorenzo A. Williams (DE)
James J. Wyles (NC)
Walter M. Yohn, Jr. (AL)


As of January 5, 2020, and in accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315(b), the following individual has satisfied the renewal conditions for obtaining an exemption from the vision requirement in the FMCSRs for
exemptions are applicable as of January 15, 2020, and will expire on January 15, 2022.

As of January 8, 2020, and in accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315(b), the following seven individuals have satisfied the renewal conditions for obtaining an exemption from the vision requirement in the FMCSRs for interstate CMV drivers (72 FR 67340; 73 FR 1395; 74 FR 65845; 76 FR 78728; 78 FR 76704; 80 FR 76345; 80 FR 80443; 81 FR 60117; and 83 FR 6922):

- Wayne A. Burnett (NC)
- George R. Cornell (OH)
- Thomas E. Gross (PA)
- Steven G. Hall (NC)
- Jason Huddleston (TX)
- Martin Postma (IL)
- Phillip D. Satterfield (GA)

The drivers were included in docket numbers FMCSA–2003–15892; and FMCSA–2003–0017. Their exemptions are applicable as of January 15, 2020, and will expire on January 15, 2022.

As of January 24, 2020, and in accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315(b), the following three individuals have satisfied the renewal conditions for obtaining an exemption from the vision requirement in the FMCSRs for interstate CMV drivers (76 FR 73769; 77 FR 3547; 77 FR 2247; 80 FR 80443; and 83 FR 6922):

- Marion J. Coleman, Jr. (KY)
- Lex A. Fabrizio (UT)
- Mark A. Ferris (IA)

The drivers were included in docket number FMCSA–2011–0299. Their exemptions are applicable as of January 24, 2020, and will expire on January 24, 2022.

As of January 27, 2020, and in accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315(b), the following five individuals have satisfied the renewal conditions for obtaining an exemption from the vision requirement in the FMCSRs for interstate CMV drivers (68 FR 52811; 68 FR 16180; 70 FR 48801; 70 FR 61165; 70 FR 71884; 71 FR 4632; 72 FR 58359; 73 FR 1395; 73 FR 5259; 74 FR 64124; 74 FR 65845; 75 FR 1451; 77 FR 545; 78 FR 78475; 80 FR 80443; and 83 FR 6922):

- John E. Kimmet, Jr. (WA)
- Jason L. Light (ID)
- Donald G. Carstensen (IA)
- Michael J. Richard (LA)
- Robert E. Sanders (PA)

The drivers were included in docket numbers FMCSA–2003–15209; FMCSA–2003–15992; and FMCSA–2005–22727. Their exemptions are applicable as of January 27, 2020, and will expire on January 27, 2022.

As of January 29, 2020, and in accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315(b), the following four individuals have satisfied the renewal conditions for obtaining an exemption from the vision requirement in the FMCSRs for interstate CMV drivers (78 FR 67454; 79 FR 4803; 80 FR 76707; 80 FR 80443; and 83 FR 6922):

- Calvin J. Barbour (NY)
- Walter A. Breeze (OH)
- Donald D. Carstensen (IA)
- Jamie D. Daniels (IA)
- Michael L. Pianigo (PA)
- Randy G. Kinney (IL)
- Hector Marquez (TX)
- Hershel D. Volentine (LA)
- Gary D. Vollersen (CO)

The drivers were included in docket number FMCSA–2013–0170. Their exemptions are applicable as of January 29, 2020, and will expire on January 29, 2022.

V. Conditions and Requirements

The exemptions are extended subject to the following conditions: (1) Each driver must undergo an annual physical examination (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 certified medical examiner (ME), as defined by §390.5, who attests that the driver is otherwise physically qualified under §391.41; (2) each driver must provide a copy of the ophthalmologist’s or optometrist’s report to the ME at the time of the annual medical examination; and (3) each driver must provide a copy of the annual medical certification to the employer for retention in the driver’s qualification file or keep a copy of his/her driver’s qualification if he/she is self-employed. The driver must also have a copy of the exemption when driving, for presentation to a duly authorized Federal, State, or local enforcement official. 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(b).

VI. Preemption

During the period the exemption is in effect, no State shall enforce any law or regulation that conflicts with this exemption with respect to a person operating under the exemption.

VI. Conclusion

Based upon its evaluation of the 90 exemption applications, FMCSA renews the exemptions of the aforementioned drivers from the vision requirement in §391.41(b)(10), subject to the requirements cited above. In accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315(b), each exemption will be valid for two years unless revoked earlier by FMCSA.

Issued on: December 10, 2019.

Larry W. Minor,
Associate Administrator for Policy.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration


Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for Review and Approval; Request for Comment; Effects of Education on Speeding Behavior

AGENCY: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), Department of Transportation.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments on a new information collection.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces that the Information Collection Request (ICR) abstracted below will be submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review. The ICR describes the nature of the information collection and its expected burden. A Federal Register notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting public comments on the following information collection was published on August 30, 2019. NHTSA received one comment, from the Insurance Institute of Highway Safety (IIHS), that was critical of the proposed information collection.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before January 13, 2020.

ADDRESSES: Send comments regarding the burden estimate, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Attention: Desk Officer for NHTSA, 725 17th Street NW, Washington, DC 20503.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kelly Sheppard, Research Psychologist, Office of Behavioral Safety Research (NPD–320), National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, W46–499, Washington, DC 20590. Dr. Sheppard’s phone number is 202–366–6401, and her email address is kelly.sheppard@dot.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Before a Federal agency can collect certain information from the public, it must receive approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). In compliance with these requirements, this notice announces that the following information collection request has been forwarded to OMB.

A Federal Register notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting public comments on the following information collection was published on August 30, 2019.1 NHTSA received one comment, from the Insurance Institute of Highway Safety (IIHS), that was critical of the proposed information collection. IIHS stated that stand-alone education programs have not been found to be effective at addressing driver behaviors like speeding and that pursuing an education program is not an effective use of the agency’s resources. They cited NHTSA’s Speed Management Program Plan as having other activities with more promise for reducing speeding.2 They also indicated that NHTSA’s Countermeasures that Work report promotes communications in support of enforcement but not education alone.3 They stated their view that incentives for intelligent speed adaptation outlined in the National Transportation Safety Board’s (NTSB) Reducing Speeding-Related Crashes Involving Passenger Vehicles safety report was a more effective use of resources.4

We appreciate the comments from IIHS and thank them for thoughtfully considering the described collection. We agree with IIHS that stand-alone education programs that are not part of a larger comprehensive approach tend to have limited effects. However, as IIHS points out, NHTSA has a Speed Management Program Plan that includes an education component as well as a variety of other strategies. The program associated with this collection is one potential education program that could be part of a larger speeding management strategy that includes many of the additional elements IIHS describes. NHTSA’s Countermeasures that Work indicates that communications and outreach supporting speeding enforcement is a promising strategy (p. 3–31), and NTSB’s Reducing Speeding-Related Crashes Involving Passenger Vehicles concluded that “traffic safety campaigns that include highly publicized, increased enforcement can be an effective speeding countermeasure” (p. 55). Additionally, NTSB recommended that NHTSA “collaborate with other traffic safety stakeholders to develop and implement an ongoing program to increase public awareness of speeding as a national traffic safety issue” (p. 57).

A 2011 meta-analysis by Phillips, Ulleberg, and Ross found that traffic safety public information and education campaigns reduced crashes by 9% on average but that campaigns focused on speeding did not indicate a statistically significant reduction.5 Many of the education programs described by IIHS and included in the meta-analysis above are public awareness campaigns where messages are delivered through mass media or at the roadside. These education programs are not focused on drivers who speed but rather on all drivers. These broad education programs may appear less effective, especially on their own, because many drivers who receive the messages do not tend to speed. Education focused on people who have already received a