A copy of FirstGroup’s exemption application is included in the docket referenced above.

IV. Request for Comments

In accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31315(b), FMCSA requests public comment from all interested persons on FirstGroup’s application for an exemption from § 382.701(a)(2). 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 considered and will be available for examination in the public docket and will be considered to the extent practicable. In addition to late comments, FMCSA will 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.

Larry W. Minor,
Associate Administrator for Policy.

[FR Doc. 2021–05328 Filed 3–15–21; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–EX–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration


Qualification of Drivers; Exemption Applications; Vision

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

ACTION: Notice of final disposition.

SUMMARY: FMCSA announces its decision to renew exemptions for 66 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 provided 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 Dockets Operations, (202) 366–9826.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Public Participation

A. Viewing Comments


B. 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 www.regulations.gov, as described in the system of records notice (DOT/ALL–14 FDMS), which can be reviewed at www.transportation.gov/privacy.

II. Background

On January 7, 2021, FMCSA published a notice announcing its decision to renew exemptions for 66 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 (86 FR 697). The public comment period ended on February 3, 2021, and one comment was received.

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 § 391.41(b)(10).

The physical qualification standard for drivers regarding vision found in § 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 at 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 one comment in this proceeding and it was unrelated to the scope of this notice.

IV. Conclusion

Based on its evaluation of the 66 renewal exemption applications and comments received, FMCSA confirms its decision to exempt the following drivers from the vision requirement in § 391.41(b)(10).
In accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31316(e) and 31315(b), the following groups of drivers received renewed exemptions in the month of February and are discussed below. As of February 5, 2021, and in accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31316(e) and 31315, the following 63 individuals have satisfied the renewal conditions for obtaining an exemption from the vision requirement in the FMCSRs for interstate CMV drivers (65 FR 20245; 65 FR 33406; 65 FR 57230;
65 FR 57234; 67 FR 10471; 67 FR 19798;
67 FR 46016; 67 FR 57266; 67 FR 57627;
69 FR 19611; 69 FR 53146; 69 FR 52741;
69 FR 53493; 69 FR 62742; 69 FR 64806;
72 FR 2705; 70 FR 48797; 70 FR 61493;
71 FR 26602; 71 FR 32183; 71 FR 41310;
71 FR 50970; 71 FR 53349; 71 FR 62147;
71 FR 62148; 71 FR 63379; 72 FR 10506;
72 FR 1051; 72 FR 1056; 72 FR 64273;
72 FR 6424; 73 FR 15567; 73 FR 16950; 73 FR 16952; 73 FR 27015;
73 FR 27018; 73 FR 35197; 73 FR 35198;
73 FR 38955; 73 FR 38498; 73 FR 38499;
73 FR 48273; 73 FR 48275; 73 FR 51336;
73 FR 51689; 73 FR 61922; 73 FR 61925; 73 FR 61925; 73 FR 63047; 73 FR 737565; 73 FR 75803; 73 FR 75807; 73 FR 76439; 73 FR 78421; 73 FR 78423; 74 FR 6209; 74 FR 66322; 75 FR 9477; 75 FR 19674; 75 FR 22179; 75 FR 36778; 75 FR 36779; 75 FR 39725; 75 FR 44051; 75 FR 47890; 75 FR 50799; 75 FR 52062; 75 FR 54955; 75 FR 59327; 75 FR 61833; 75 FR 63257; 75 FR 64396; 75 FR 69737; 75 FR 70078; 75 FR 72863; 75 FR 77591; 75 FR 77942; 75 FR 77949; 75 FR 79097; 75 FR 79083; 75 FR 79084; 76 FR 1499; 76 FR 2190; 76 FR 4413; 76 FR 5425; 76 FR 70215; 77 FR 13689; 77 FR 20879; 77 FR 23797; 77 FR 31427; 77 FR 36338; 77 FR 38384; 77 FR 41879; 77 FR 46153; 77 FR 48590; 77 FR 52381; 77 FR 52389; 77 FR 52391; 77 FR 55626; 77 FR 60008; 77 FR 60010; 77 FR 64582; 77 FR 64583; 77 FR 64583; 77 FR 64841; 77 FR 6593; 77 FR 68200; 77 FR 68202; 77 FR 71671; 77 FR 74273; 77 FR 74730; 77 FR 74733; 77 FR 74734; 77 FR 75496; 77 FR 76166; 77 FR 7697; 78 FR 63302; 78 FR 64280; 78 FR 67454; 78 FR 77780; 78 FR 4803; 79 FR 10606; 79 FR 10609; 79 FR 14331; 79 FR 22003; 79 FR 23797; 79 FR 35212; 79 FR 35218; 79 FR 35220; 79 FR 37843; 79 FR 38659; 79 FR 38661; 79 FR 41735; 79 FR 45868; 79 FR 46153; 79 FR 47175; 79 FR 51643; 79 FR 53514; 79 FR 56097; 79 FR 56099; 79 FR 56104; 79 FR 56117; 79 FR 58856; 79 FR 59348; 79 FR 59357; 79 FR 64001; 79 FR 65759; 79 FR 65760; 79 FR 70928; 79 FR 72754; 79 FR 72756; 79 FR 73397; 79 FR 73686; 79 FR 73687; 79 FR 73689; 79 FR 74109; 80 FR 35605; 80 FR 9304; 80 FR 9304; 80 FR 80443; 81 FR 20435; 81 FR 28138; 81 FR 39320; 81 FR 45214; 81 FR 66720; 81 FR 66726; 81 FR 70248; 81 FR 70251; 81 FR 70253; 81 FR 71173; 81 FR 72664; 81 FR 80161; 81 FR 81230; 81 FR 90046; 81 FR 90050; 81 FR 91239; 81 FR 94013; 81 FR 96165; 81 FR 96178; 81 FR 96180; 81 FR 96191; 81 FR 96196; 82 FR 13048; 83 FR 3861; 83 FR 6625; 83 FR 18633; 83 FR 28325; 83 FR 28342; 83 FR 34661; 83 FR 53724; 83 FR 56140; 83 FR 56902; 84 FR 2309; 84 FR 2311; 84 FR 2314).
for 2 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(e) and 31315(b).

Larry W. Minor, Associate Administrator for Policy.
[FR Doc. 2021–05364 Filed 3–15–21; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4910–EX–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration
[Docket No. FMCSA–2020–0015]
Qualification of Drivers; Exemption Applications; Vision

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

ACTION: Notice of final disposition.

SUMMARY: FMCSA announces its decision to exempt seven individuals from the vision requirement in the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (FMCSRs) to operate a commercial motor vehicle (CMV) in interstate commerce. They are unable to meet the vision requirement in one eye for various reasons. The exemptions enable these individuals to operate CMVs in interstate commerce without meeting the vision requirement in one eye.

DATES: The exemptions were applicable on February 5, 2021. The exemptions expire on February 5, 2023.

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 Dockets Operations, (202) 366–9826.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Public Participation
A. Viewing Documents and Comments

To view comments, as well as any documents mentioned in this notice as being available in the docket, go to www.regulations.gov/look/2020–0015 and choose the document to review. If you do not have access to the internet, you may view the docket online by visiting Dockets Operations in Room W12–140 on the ground floor of the DOT West Building, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590–0001, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., ET, Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. To be sure someone is there to help you, please call (202) 366–9317 or (202) 366–9826 before visiting Dockets Operations.

B. 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 www.regulations.gov, as described in the system of records notice (DOT/ALL–14 FDMS), which can be reviewed at www.transportation.gov/privacy.

II. Background

On January 7, 2021, FMCSA published a notice announcing receipt of applications from seven individuals requesting an exemption from vision requirement in 49 CFR 391.41(b)(10) and requested comments from the public (86 FR 695). The public comment period ended on February 5, 2021, and one comment was received.

FMCSA has evaluated the eligibility of these 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 § 391.41(b)(10).

The physical qualification standard for drivers regarding vision found in § 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 one comment in this proceeding. Tracy Ibingher submitted a comment stating that the Minnesota Department of Public Safety has no objections to the decision to grant an exemption to Burl V. Ingebretsen.

IV. Basis for Exemption Determination

Under 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315(b), FMCSA may grant an exemption from the FMCSRs 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 FMCSRs for a 2-year period to align with the maximum duration of a driver’s medical certification.

The Agency’s decision regarding these exemption applications is based on medical reports about the applicants’ vision, as well as their driving records and experience driving with the vision deficiency. The qualifications, experience, and medical condition of each applicant were stated and discussed in detail in the January 7, 2021, Federal Register notice (86 FR 695) and will not be repeated here. FMCSA recognizes that some drivers do not meet the vision requirement but have adapted their driving to accommodate their limitation and demonstrated their ability to drive safely. The seven exemption applicants listed in this notice are in this category. They are unable to meet the vision requirement in one eye for various reasons, including amblyopia, corneal scarring, ectopia lentis, optic nerve hypoplasia, and retinal detachment. In most cases, their eye conditions did not develop recently. Five of the applicants were either born with their vision impairments or have had them since childhood. The two individuals that developed their vision conditions as adults have had them for a range of 3 to 4 years. Although each applicant has one eye that does not meet the vision requirement in § 391.41(b)(10), each has at least 20/40 corrected vision in the other eye, and, in a doctor’s opinion, has sufficient vision to perform all the tasks necessary to operate a CMV.

Doctors’ opinions are supported by the applicants’ possession of a valid license to operate a CMV. By meeting State licensing requirements, the applicants demonstrated their ability to operate a CMV with their limited vision in intrastate commerce, even though their vision disqualified them from driving in interstate commerce. We believe that the applicants’ intrastate driving experience and history provide an adequate basis for predicting their ability to drive safely in intrastate commerce. Intrastate driving, like interstate operations, involves