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 59 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, DOT, 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 June 28, 2021, FMCSA published a notice announcing its decision to renew exemptions for 59 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 34111). The public comment period ended on July 28, 2021, and no comments were 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 a least 20/40 (Snellen) in both eyes 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 proceeding.

IV. Conclusion

Based on its evaluation of the 59 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. 31136(e) and 31315(b), the following groups of drivers received renewed exemptions in the month of August and are discussed below. As of August 8, 2021, 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 (63 FR 66226, 64 FR 16517, 65 FR 66286, 66 FR 13825, 66 FR 17994, 68 FR 13360, 68 FR 15037, 68 FR 19598, 69 FR 33570, 69 FR 33997, 69 FR 53493, 69 FR 61292, 69 FR 62742, 70 FR 2701, 70 FR 12265, 70 FR 14747, 70 FR 16887, 70 FR 25878, 71 FR 62148, 71 FR 63379, 72 FR 1051, 72 FR 8417, 72 FR 11425, 72 FR 11426, 72 FR 12665, 72 FR 28093, 73 FR 36099, 73 FR 35197, 73 FR 48275, 73 FR 61925, 73 FR 75803, 73 FR 78423, 74 FR 6209, 74 FR 8302, 74 FR 9329, 74 FR 11991, 74 FR 15586, 74 FR 19267, 74 FR 20253, 74 FR 26466, 74 FR 28094, 75 FR 44051, 75 FR 77492, 75 FR 77949, 75 FR 79083, 76 FR 4413, 76 FR 5425, 76 FR 9856, 76 FR 11215, 76 FR 15360, 76 FR 17483, 76 FR 20076, 76 FR 21796, 76 FR 29022, 76 FR 29026, 76 FR 32016, 76 FR 37173, 76 FR 44082, 77 FR 46153, 77 FR 60008, 77 FR 68202, 77 FR 70534, 77 FR 71671, 77 FR 74734, 78 FR 797, 78 FR 800, 78 FR 9772, 78 FR 12813, 78 FR 12822, 78 FR 16035, 78 FR 16762, 78 FR 18667, 78 FR 22596, 78 FR 22602, 78 FR 24798, 78 FR 27281, 78 FR 30954,
Lynn R. Schaeder (IA)  
Loverene F. Schulte, Jr. (OH)  
Richie J. Schwendy (IL)  
Martin Serrano (IL)  
Kyle C. Shover (NJ)  
Sammie Q. Soles, Jr. (MI)  
Charles T. Spears (VA)  
George R. Tieskoetter (IA)  
Jaime Valdez (TX)  
James K. Waites (AR)  
Robert A. Wegner (MN)  
Bryon L. Wright (DE)  
Dana J. York (PA)


As of August 10, 2021, and in accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315(b), Carl V. Murphy, Jr. (TX) has satisfied the renewal conditions for obtaining an exemption from the vision requirement in the FMCSRs for interstate CMV drivers. (78 FR 34143, 78 FR 52602, 82 FR 32919, 84 FR 52166).

This driver was included in docket number FMCSA–2013–0029. The exemption is applicable as of August 23, 2021 and will expire on August 23, 2023.

As of August 25, 2021, and in accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315(b), the following two individuals have satisfied the renewal conditions for obtaining an exemption from the vision requirement in the FMCSRs for interstate CMVs (80 FR 44188, 80 FR 62161, 82 FR 32919, 84 FR 52166):

Robert J. Falanga (FL) and Duane S. Lozinski (IA)

The drivers were included in docket number FMCSA–2015–0053. Their exemptions are applicable as of August 25, 2021 and will expire on August 25, 2023.

As of August 29, 2021, and in accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315(b), Patrick J. Conner (OK) has satisfied the renewal conditions for obtaining an exemption from the vision requirement in the FMCSRs for interstate CMV drivers (82 FR 35043, 82 FR 62161, 84 FR 52166).

This driver was included in docket number FMCSA–2017–0019. The exemption is applicable as of August 29, 2021 and will expire on August 29, 2023.

In accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31315(b), each exemption will be valid 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.