applicants in the exemption document and includes the following: (1) each driver must report any crashes or accidents as defined in § 390.5; (2) each driver must report all citations and convictions for disqualifying offenses under 49 CFR 383 and 49 CFR 391 to FMCSA; and (3) each driver is prohibited from operating a motorcoach or bus with passengers in interstate commerce. The driver must also have a copy of the exemption when driving, for presentation to a duly authorized Federal, State, or local enforcement official. In addition, the exemption does not exempt the individual from meeting the applicable CDL testing requirements.

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.

VII. Conclusion

Based upon its evaluation of the 22 exemption applications, FMCSA exempts the following drivers from the hearing standard, § 391.41(b)(11), subject to the requirements cited above:

Christopher Adams (IA), Jerritt Boehle (IL), Nathan Bohannon (TX), John Darr (TN), Jeremy Earl (IL), Taniko Graham (TN), Rodney Henley (AL), Quincy Hicks (VA), Omar Ibrahim (MN), Larry Mancill (MO), Glenn McCormack (IL), Carlos Morales (FL), Steven Morris (TX), Tisha Simmons (NC), Vikramdeep Singh (NY), Joseph Stanford, III (OR), Charles Stire (KY), Amanda Sturdevant (TX), Robert Walker, Jr. (WA), Joshua Wayland (IL), Kevin Young (AL), Karisa Zapotocky (CA)

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.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

[Docket No. FMCSA–2022–0080]

Agency Information Collection Activities: Renewal of an Approved Information Collection: Lease and Interchange of Vehicles

AGENCY: Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), Department of Transportation (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 its review and approval and invites public comment. This ICR will enable FMCSA to document the burden associated with the for-hire truck leasing regulations and passenger carrier regulations. These regulations require certain for-hire property carriers and certain for-hire and private passenger carriers to have a formal lease when leasing equipment from other motor carriers. FMCSA requests approval to renew an ICR titled, “Lease and Interchange of Vehicles.”

DATES: Comments on this notice must be received on or before September 12, 2022.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments identified by Federal Docket Management System Docket Number FMCSA–2022–0080 using any of the following methods:

- Fax: (202) 493–2251.
- Mail: Dockets Operations; U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, West Building, Ground Floor, Room W12–140, Washington, DC 20590–0001.
- Hand Delivery or Courier: U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, West Building, Ground Floor, Room W12–140, Washington, DC 20590–0001 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. e.t., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

Instructions: All submissions must include the Agency name and docket number. For detailed instructions on submitting comments see the Public Participation heading below. Note that all comments received will be posted without change to https://www.regulations.gov, including any personal information provided. Please see the Privacy Act heading below.

Docket: For access to the docket to read background documents or comments received, go to https://www.regulations.gov, and follow the online instructions for accessing the dockets, or go to the street address listed above.

Privacy: In accordance with 5 CFR 1320.8(d)(1), DOT solicits comments from the public to better inform its collections of information approval 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.dot.gov/privacy.

Public Participation: The Federal eRulemaking Portal is available 24 hours each day, 365 days each year. You can obtain electronic submission and retrieval help and guidelines under the “help” section of the Federal eRulemaking Portal website. If you want us to notify you 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. Comments received after the comment closing date will be included in the docket and will be considered to the extent practicable.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Stacy Ropp, Compliance Division, DOT, FMCSA, West Building 6th Floor, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590–0001; (609) 661–2062; Stacy.Ropp@dot.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Property transportation. Under 49 U.S.C. 14102(a), the Secretary of Transportation (Secretary) “may require a motor carrier providing for-hire transportation that uses motor vehicles not owned by it to transport property under an arrangement with another party to——

(1) make the arrangement in writing signed by the parties specifying its duration and the compensation to be paid by the motor carrier;

(2) carry a copy of the arrangement in each motor vehicle to which it applies during the period the arrangement is in effect;

(3) inspect the motor vehicles and obtain liability and cargo insurance on them; and

(4) have control of and be responsible for operating those motor vehicles in compliance with requirements prescribed by the Secretary on safety of
operations and equipment, and with other applicable law as if the motor vehicles were owned by the motor carrier.”

The Secretary has delegated authority pertaining to leased motor vehicles to FMCSA pursuant to 49 CFR 1.87[a][6]. The Agency’s regulations governing leased motor vehicles are at 49 CFR part 376.

The regulations were adopted to ensure that small trucking companies were protected when they agreed to lease their equipment and drivers to larger for-hire carriers. They also ensure the government and members of the public can determine who is responsible for a property-carrying commercial motor vehicle. Prior to adoption of the regulations, some equipment was leased without written agreements, leading to disputes over which party to the lease was responsible for charges and actions and, at times, who was legally responsible for the vehicle.

The regulations specify what must be covered in the lease but leave open how many responsibilities must be divided. The parties to the lease determine numerous details between themselves.

Part 376 applies only to certain motor carriers in interstate commerce and to certain leasing situations based on exemptions set forth in § 376.11, which cross references other provisions in part 376. Section 376.11 provides that an authorized carrier (a person or persons authorized to engage in the transportation of property as a motor carrier under the provisions of 49 U.S.C. 13901 and perform authorized transportation using equipment it does not own) may perform authorized transportation using equipment it does not own only when the following conditions are met:

(1) There shall be a written lease granting the use of the equipment and meeting the requirements contained in § 376.12;

(2) Receipts, specifically identifying the equipment to be leased and stating the date and time of day possession is transferred, shall be given; and

(3) The authorized carrier acquiring the use of equipment under this section shall identify the equipment as being in its service.

Passenger transportation. FMCSA can regulate the lease and interchange of passenger-carrying commercial motor vehicles based on the authority of the Motor Carrier Act of 1935 and the Motor Carrier Safety Act of 1984, as amended. FMCSA’s regulations about the lease and interchange of passenger-carrying commercial motor vehicles in part G of 49 CFR part 390 help ensure that passenger motor carriers evade FMCSA oversight and enforcement by entering into lease agreements to operate under the authority of another carrier that exercises no control over these operations. Motor carriers that (1) operate passenger-carrying commercial motor vehicles, (2) have active operating authority registration with FMCSA to transport passengers, and (3) engage in the lease or interchange of passenger-carrying commercial motor vehicles with other motor carriers that have active operating authority registration with FMCSA to transport passengers, are not subject to the regulations in subpart G of 49 CFR part 390 and the recordkeeping requirements therein. Such regulations and requirements also do not apply to financial leases (such as a closed-end lease, hire purchase, lease purchase, purchase agreement, installment plan, demonstration or loaner vehicle, etc.) between a motor carrier and a bank or similar financial organization or a manufacturer or dealer of passenger-carrying commercial motor vehicles.

Section 390.403(b) specifies the four required items of information that any lease or interchange record document for passenger-carrying commercial motor vehicles is required to contain. These are (1) vehicle identification information; (2) information about and signatures of the involved motor carriers of passengers [the lessor and the lessee]; (3) specific duration of the lease or interchange agreement; and (4) a clear statement about exclusive possession and responsibilities. Section 390.403(c) requires a copy of the lease or interchange agreement be on the passenger-carrying commercial motor vehicle during the period of the lease or interchange agreement. Both the lessee and lessor must retain a copy of the lease or interchange agreement for one year after the expiration date.

These property carrier and passenger carrier provisions account for the burden in this information collection. The program change increase of 75,968 estimated annual burden hours (212,256 proposed estimated annual burden hours + 136,288 currently approved estimated annual burden hours) is due to the availability of new or improved data, the use of enhanced analysis or estimation methodologies, and/or the correction of arithmetic or other errors made previously when calculating the burden for the currently approved information collection. Previous estimates were based on 2017 data. Current passenger carrier-related estimates are based on the October 29, 2021, Licensing and Insurance, Motor Carrier Management Information System, and Safety Measurement System snapshots. Current property carrier related estimates are based on the November 26, 2021, Licensing and Insurance, Motor Carrier Management Information System, and Safety Measurement System snapshots. The data pulled for the current ICR shows an increase in the overall number of affected property carriers and a decrease in the overall number of affected passenger carriers from the data used in the previous ICR. The increase in the number of affected property carriers was greater than the decrease in the overall number of affected passenger carriers which resulted in an increase in the overall burden hours associated with this ICR.

Title: Lease and Interchange of Vehicles.

OMB Control Number: 2126–0056.

Type of Request: Renewal of currently approved ICR.

Respondents: Motor carriers authorized by the Secretary to transport property and passengers that use leased equipment.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 48,046 [45,536 property carriers (lessees and lessors) + 2,230 interstate authorized for-hire passenger carriers (lessees and lessors) + 124 interstate exempt for-hire passenger carriers (lessees and lessors) + 156 interstate private motor carriers of passengers (lessees and lessors)].

Estimated Time per Response: Varies from 5 to 30 minutes.

Expiration Date: October 31, 2022.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Total Annual Burden: 212,256 hours [45,536 hours for master lease (creation of master leases by lessees and lessors that are property carriers) + 73,067 hours for standard statement (creation of a statement or copy of the lease to be carried in each leased truck tractor) + 80,320 hours for one-time lease negotiations by lessees and lessors that are passenger carriers + 13,333 hours for lease documentation by lessees and lessors that are passenger carriers + zero or de minimis hours for lease copying by passenger carriers].

Public Comments Invited: You are asked to comment on any aspect of this information collection, including: (1) whether the proposed collection is necessary for the performance of FMCSA’s functions; (2) the accuracy of the estimated burden; (3) ways for FMCSA to enhance the quality, usefulness, and clarity of the collected information; and (4) ways that the burden could be minimized without reducing the quality of the collected information. The Agency will summarize or include your comments in the request for OMB’s clearance of this ICR.
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

[Docket No. FMCSA–2022–0044]
Qualification of Drivers; Exemption Applications; Epilepsy and Seizure Disorders

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

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

SUMMARY: FMCSA announces receipt of applications from 16 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 drive CMVs 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 drive CMVs in interstate commerce.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before August 12, 2022.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments identified by the Federal Docket Management System Docket No. FMCSA–2022–0044 using any of the following methods:

• Federal eRulemaking Portal: Go to www.regulations.gov/, insert the docket number, FMCSA–2022–0044, in the keyword box, and click “Search.” Next, sort the results by “Posted (Newer–Older),” choose the first notice listed, and click on the “Comment” button. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.

• Mail: Dockets 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 20590–0001 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., ET, Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays.

• Fax: (202) 393–4251.

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, DOT, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Room W64–224, Washington, DC 20590–0001. Office hours are 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. Submitting Comments

If you submit a comment, please include the docket number for this notice (Docket No. FMCSA–2022–0044), indicate the specific section of this document to which each comment applies, and provide a reason for each recommendation. You may submit your comments and material online or by fax, mail, or hand delivery, but please use only one of these means. FMCSA recommends that you include your name and a mailing address, an email address, or a phone number in the body of your document so that FMCSA can contact you if there are questions regarding your submission.

To submit your comment online, go to www.regulations.gov/docket?D=FMCSA–2022–0044. Next, sort the results by “Posted (Newer–Older),” choose the first notice listed, click the “Comment” button, and type your comment into the text box on the following screen. Choose whether you are submitting your comment as an individual or on behalf of a third party and then submit.

If you submit your comments by mail or hand delivery, submit them in an unbound format, no larger than 8 1/2 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.

B. Viewing Comments

To view comments go to www.regulations.gov. Insert the docket number, FMCSA–2022–0044, in the keyword box, and click “Search.” Next, sort the results by “Posted (Newer–Older),” choose the first notice listed, and click “Browse Comments.” 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.

C. Privacy Act

In accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31315(b)(6), DOT solicits comments from the public on the exemption request. 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.dot.gov/privacy.

II. Background

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 16 individuals listed in this notice have requested an exemption from the epilepsy and seizure disorders 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 § 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 to assist medical examiners (MEs) in determining whether drivers with certain medical conditions are qualified

1 These criteria may be found in APPENDIX A TO PART 391—MEDICAL ADVISORY CRITERIA, section II. Epilepsy: § 391.41(b)(8), paragraphs 3, 4, and 5, which is available on the internet at https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/CFR-2015-title49-vol5/pdf/CFR-2015-title49-vol5-part391-appa.pdf.