

Military CDL Skills Test Waiver

The Washington Department of Licensing is requesting assistance with implementing this program at the point of transition from active duty to civilian status in the State of Washington.

Department of Licensing POC is Tandy Alexander, Assistant Administrator, Planning and Performance, 360-902-3893.

This program will be value added to those individuals with current and applicable skills, knowledge and abilities, wishing to transition rapidly to employment requiring a Commercial Drivers' License (CDL).

This program will recognize the skills, knowledge, and abilities provided through training and 2-years' experience driving tractor-trailer (5th wheel, pintle hook) combinations during military service. *Individuals will still need to take the written knowledge test and pay all fees required for licensing, but will not have to spend additional time and money for duplicative training. In addition individuals will not have to take a road test which requires additional money and is a logistical hurdle to obtaining a CDL.*

This program is not valid for school bus or passenger carrier licenses.

History

In May, 2011, the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration finalized the Commercial Learner's Permit rule. Within that rule is a provision that gives State Driver Licensing Agencies (SDLA) the authority to substitute two years of CMV safe driving experience in military equivalents of commercial motor vehicles, for the skills test portion of the commercial driver license skills test.

The regulation, 49 CFR 383.77, provides guidance for SDLAs which requires the applicant to certify:

- 1) his/ her safe driving experience;
- 2) that he or she has not held more than one license (except a military DL) in the past two years;
- 3) has not had his/her base State issued driver license suspended, revoked or cancelled; and,
- 4) has not had convictions in any type of motor vehicle for the disqualifying CDL offenses listed elsewhere in the regulations.

There are also other requirements that States must recognize in order to take advantage of this Skills Test Waiver, but the process allows States to assist veterans and active duty personnel in their transition from their military occupation to a civilian career. As more and more of our military troops return home from active duty, the Department of Transportation and FMCSA have joined with the Departments of Defense, Labor and Veterans Affairs to ease this process.

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FMCSA, in collaboration with the US Army, Department of Defense and the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators, has generated a standardized [Application for Military Skills Test Waiver form](#). This document addresses all of the issues captured in the new regulation including:

- 1) which violations can deny the waiver;
- 2) identifying the specific type(s) of vehicle which the service member was licensed to drive; and,
- 3) an endorsement by the service member's commanding officer of the safe driving record.

For a list of the States which currently offer the skills test waiver for military drivers [see the map.](#)"

<http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/registration-licensing/cdl/Military-CDL-Waiver.aspx>

Thank you in advance for any assistance you can provide to make this a credible and viable program for transition service members. This program can open the doors to rapid transition from active duty to employment at living wage and a career opportunity.

APPLICATION FOR MILITARY SKILLS TEST WAIVER

The Commercial Driver License (CDL) skills test waiver form may be used by service members who are currently licensed and who are or were employed within the last 90 days in a military position requiring the operation of a military motor vehicle equivalent to a Commercial Motor Vehicle (CMV). This waiver allows a qualified service member to apply for a CDL without skills testing. CDL knowledge (written) test(s) cannot be waived. **The transfer of School Bus(S) and/or Passenger (P) endorsements under this Waiver Program are prohibited.**

APPLICANT INFORMATION

NAME (Last, First, Middle)		STATE /DRIVER LICENSE NUMBER (required)		APPLICATION DATE
RESIDENCE ADDRESS (STREET)	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE	COUNTY
MAILING ADDRESS (IF DIFFERENT)	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE	COUNTY

DRIVER RECORD CERTIFICATION

During the 2-year period immediately preceding this date:

- Have you had more than one license (except for a military license)? YES NO
- Has your license been suspended, revoked, cancelled or disqualified in this or any state? YES NO

Have you been convicted of any violations described below in any type of motor vehicle?

- Being under the influence of alcohol as prescribed by state law YES NO
- Being under the influence of a controlled substance YES NO
- Having an alcohol concentration of 0.04 or greater while operating a CMV YES NO
- Refusing to take an alcohol test as required by a State jurisdiction under its implied consent laws or regulations as defined in 49 CFR 383.72 YES NO
- Leaving the scene of an accident YES NO
- Using the vehicle to commit a felony (other than manufacturing, distributing or dispensing a controlled substance) YES NO
- Driving a CMV while your CDL is revoked, suspended, cancelled; or you are disqualified from operating a CMV YES NO
- Causing a fatality through the negligent operation of a CMV (including motor vehicle manslaughter, homicide by motor vehicle, or negligent homicide) YES NO
- Using the vehicle in the commission of a felony involving manufacturing, distributing, or dispensing a controlled substance YES NO

Have you had more than one conviction for any of the violations described below in any type of motor vehicle?

- Speeding in excess of 15 mph or more above the posted speed limit YES NO
- Driving recklessly, as defined by State or local law or regulation (including offenses of driving a motor vehicle in willful or wanton disregard for the safety of persons or property) YES NO
- Making improper or erratic lane changes YES NO
- Following the vehicle ahead too closely YES NO
- Violating State or local law relating to motor vehicle traffic control (other than a parking violation) arising in connection with a fatal accident YES NO
- Driving a CMV without obtaining a CDL YES NO
- Driving a CMV without a CDL in the driver's possession YES NO
- Driving a CMV without the proper class of CDL and/or endorsements for a specific vehicle group being operated or for the passengers or type of cargo being transported YES NO
- Violating a State or local law or ordinance on motor vehicle traffic control prohibiting texting while driving YES NO
- Violating a State or local law or ordinance on motor vehicle traffic control restricting or prohibiting the use of a hand held mobile telephone while driving YES NO

Have you had any conviction for a violation of military, state or local law relating to motor vehicle traffic control (other than parking violation) arising in connection with any traffic accident and have no record of an accident in which you were at fault? YES NO

CERTIFICATION OF DRIVING EXPERIENCE

- Have you been regularly employed or were you regularly employed within the last 90 days in a military position requiring the operation of a military motor vehicle that was representative of a commercial motor vehicle (CMV)?..... YES NO
- Were you exempted from the CDL licensing requirements for driving a military vehicle on state roads and highways in accordance with 49 CFR §383.3 (c)? YES NO
- Have you operated a military motor vehicle representative of the commercial motor vehicle (CMV) that you operate or expect to operate, for at least the 2 years immediately preceding discharge from the military? YES NO

I certify under penalty of perjury that the information on this form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE	DATE
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COMMANDING OFFICER'S CERTIFICATION OF COMMERCIAL DRIVING EXPERIENCE			
COMMANDING OFFICER'S NAME (LAST, FIRST, MIDDLE)		TELEPHONE NUMBER	
STREET ADDRESS			
CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE	COUNTY
SERVICE MEMBER'S DATE OF QUALIFICATION: FROM		TO	
SERVICE MEMBER'S NAME			EXPIRATION DATE (US Gov't Motor Vehicle Operator Identification Card / License)

Circle the highest class of vehicles the service member has been driving:

Class	Vehicle Description	EXAMPLE OF VEHICLES IN GROUP
A	<p>* 5th WHEEL - Truck Tractor/Semitrailer</p> <p>Any combination of vehicles with a GCWR of 26,001 or more pounds provided the GVWR of the vehicle(s) being towed is in excess of 10,000 pounds.</p>	
A	<p>* PINTLE HOOK - Truck Trailer Combination</p> <p>Any combination of vehicles with a GCWR of 26,001 or more pounds provided the GVWR of the vehicle(s) being towed is in excess of 10,000 pounds.</p>	
B	<p>Any single vehicle with a GVWR of 26,001 or more pounds or any such vehicle towing a vehicle not in excess of 10,000 pounds GVWR.</p>	

The vehicle the service member operates is equipped with a full air brake system: YES NO

The vehicle the service member operates is equipped with an air-over-hydraulic braking system: YES NO

The transmission in the vehicle the service member operates is: AUTOMATIC MANUAL

I certify that the service member named on the front of this document is/was assigned in a job/assignment requiring the operation of a commercial motor vehicle, the service member's driving experience has been verified; and the information provided herein is true and correct to my knowledge, information and belief. I also certify that I am an officer of the Armed Forces with the authority to administer oaths; and who has the general powers of a notary public.

PRINT COMMANDING OFFICER'S NAME/RANK	DATE
SIGNATURE	DATE

Authority of Article 136, Uniform Code of Military Justice or 10 U.S.C. 1044A