

# WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW BEFORE COMING IN TO RENEW OR CHANGE YOUR CDL



**DDS**  
GEORGIA DEPARTMENT  
OF DRIVER SERVICES

## AVOID DELAYS AND ENSURE YOU'RE PREPARED FOR YOUR DDS VISIT BY COMPLETING THESE STEPS

### 1. Check Your License status

- ✓ Use DDS Online Services and download the Mobile Driver's License (mDL) app to view your CDL status and expiration date.
- Ensure your CDL is eligible for renewal.

### 2. Verify Your Self-Certification Category

- ✓ Log into DDS Online Services to check your CDL Self-Certification status by viewing your mobile vehicle report (MVR).
  - This ensures you are selecting the correct CDL class and Medical Certification category.
- Learn about the self-certification categories here: **DDS Self-Certification Information Page** - CDL Medical Certificate Help | Georgia Department of Driver Services.
- Changes to your self-certification status must be made in person at a DDS CSC.



### 3. Obtain Your Medical Certificate

- ✓ Choose a Medical Examiner (ME) who is listed on the FMCSA National Registry of Certified Medical Examiners to perform your DOT physical - [FMCSA National Registry](#)
- Please review your Medical Certificate carefully to ensure that all information matches your driver's license, including:
  - **Full Name**
  - **Date of Birth (DOB)**
  - **Driver's License Number**
- Verify with the ME that the medical certificate has been added to the National Registry

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## 4. Medical Certificate Processing Time



- Medical Certificates can take 48–72 hours to be electronically submitted into our system. Please allow this time before contacting the CSC.
- DDS is unable to provide confirmation printouts until the information is transmitted to our system.
- Medical Certificates submitted prior to June 18, 2025, must be updated to your record using the new electronic process. Check eServices or get a copy of your MVR to see if yours has been applied.

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## 5. Check the FMCSA National Registry Integration Information (NRII)



- Check FMCSA's NRII resources to learn more about the electronic medical certificate process: <https://nationalregistry.fmcsa.dot.gov/nriilearning-center>.



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## 6. Bring the Right Documents



You may need:

- Proof of U.S. Citizenship or Lawful Presence
- Proof of residency/address (if recently changed)
- Your current CDL
- [Documents for name changes](#)
- Check our full [CDL Document Checklist](#) for more details.

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## 7. Know If You Need Testing



- Take a written Knowledge Exam (e.g., for endorsements)
- Complete a Vision Exam
- Undergo fingerprinting and a background check for HAZMAT

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## 8. Check Appointments



- Appointments are only required for CDL Skills Testing
- Visit our website at [www.dds.georgia.gov](http://www.dds.georgia.gov) to find a CDL Skills Testing location near you.

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## 9. Third-Party CDL Skills Test



- After the third-party CDL Skills Test, please wait at least 48 business hours before visiting a CSC.
  - For example: if your test was administered on a Friday, you must wait until Wednesday before completing the process at a CSC.

## 10. Entry-Level Driver Training (ELDT)



- Entry Level Driver Training (ELDT) must be completed with a training provider that is certified on the FMCSA Training Provider Registry prior to taking a CDL Skills Exam (<https://tpr.fmcsa.dot.gov/>).
- The training provider is responsible for electronically submitting the training records to DDS.
  - This process could take up to 48 hours.

## 11. Hazmat Endorsement Renewals



- Must complete a **TSA Threat Assessment** before renewing.
- Must pass the Hazmat knowledge exam at a DDS CSC.

## 12. Know If You Need Testing



- Understand the impact (e.g., future retesting if you return to commercial driving).
- Be sure your decision is documented and that you're bringing all required documents.

## 13. Recheck Everything 2–3 Days Before Your Visit

- Especially your medical certificate status and self-certification category.
- Make sure no documents are missing and that your information is current.

