



PROTECTING AMERICA'S ROADS

RESTORING INTEGRITY TO

NON-DOMICILED CDLS



SUMMARY

The U.S. Department of Transportation announced an emergency interim final rule to strengthen federal oversight of how states issue non-domiciled commercial learner's permits (CLPs) and commercial driver's licenses (CDLs). The rule comes in response to a nationwide review conducted by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) revealing widespread non-compliance among state driver licensing agencies and a troubling series of fatal crashes caused by non-domiciled CDL holders.

FMCSA's nationwide review of state processes for issuing non-domiciled CDLs uncovered:

- Systemic non-compliance across several states, including California, Colorado, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Texas, and Washington;
- Programming errors and weak quality assurance; and
- Insufficient staff training that led to CDLs being issued to drivers who were not eligible and to drivers with expiration dates extending beyond a driver's legal stay in the U.S.

ABOUT THE RULE

This interim final rule closes gaps in how states issue CLPs and CDLs to individuals from outside of the United States. It tightens eligibility, strengthens safeguards, and makes clear when these licenses must be canceled or revoked, delivering a more secure system and safer roads for all Americans.

1. Limits individuals eligible for non-domiciled CLPs and CDLs to foreign individuals in lawful status in the United States in certain employment-based, non-immigrant categories, certain individuals domiciled in a U.S. territory, and individuals domiciled in a state that is prohibited from issuing CLPs or CDLs because FMCSA has decertified the state's CDL program;
2. Requires non-citizen applicants (except for lawful permanent residents) to provide an unexpired foreign passport and an unexpired Form I-94/94A (Arrival/Departure Record) indicating one of the specified employment-based nonimmigrant categories, specifically H2-B, H2-A, and E-2 visas, at every issuance, transfer, renewal, and upgrade action defined in the regulation;
3. Requires state drivers licensing agencies (SDLA) to query the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements system, known as SAVE, which is administered by U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services within the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, to verify the accuracy and legitimacy of provided documents and information;
4. Requires that SDLAs retain copies of the application documents for at least two years;
5. Requires the expiration date for any non-domiciled CLP or CDL to match the expiration date of the Form I-94/94A or to expire in one year, whichever is sooner;
6. Requires the applicant to be present in-person at each renewal; and
7. Requires an SDLA to downgrade the non-domiciled CLP or CDL if the state becomes aware that the holder is no longer eligible to hold a non-domiciled CLP or CDL.



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EXAMPLE 1

ADDRESS AS OF 06-27-28: [REDACTED]

California Issued CDL

Expires June, 2030

DESCRIPTION: [REDACTED] HAIR: [REDACTED] EYES: [REDACTED] HEIGHT: [REDACTED] WEIGHT: [REDACTED]

STATUS OF DRIVING PRIVILEGE AND IDENTIFICATION CARD

DRIVING PRIVILEGE STATUS: DRIVER LICENSE VALID

LICENSE STATUS: DRIVER LICENSE VALID

CLASS: NONE

CENSE ISSUED: 06-27-28 MAILED: 07-11-28 EXPIRES: 06-16-30

REMAINED: NO DATE CLASS: A COMMERCIAL

OR/VETERAN: [REDACTED] UPDATED: [REDACTED]

LEGAL PRESENCE VERIFICATION CODE: [REDACTED]

MENT NUMBER: [REDACTED] NO DATE UPDATED: [REDACTED]

VERIFICATION: [REDACTED]

NTS: NONE

LOCATION CODE: [REDACTED] UPDATED: [REDACTED]

U.S. Work Authorization

Expires April, 2022

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
EMPLOYMENT AUTHORIZATION

Surname: [REDACTED] O: [REDACTED] C: [REDACTED]

Given Name: [REDACTED] M: [REDACTED]

UNICID# [REDACTED] Category Card# [REDACTED]

Country of Birth: Mexico

Terms and Conditions: None

Date of Birth: [REDACTED] Sex: [REDACTED]

Valid From: [REDACTED] Card Expires: 04/23/22

NOT VALID FOR REENTRY TO U.S.

Driver CDL expiration date **eight years** beyond expiration date of work authorization

EXAMPLE 2

BIRTHDATE: [REDACTED]

California Issued CDL

Expires November, 2029

ADDRESS AS OF 12-18-24: [REDACTED]

DESCRIPTION: [REDACTED] HAIR: [REDACTED] EYES: [REDACTED] HEIGHT: [REDACTED] WEIGHT: [REDACTED]

STATUS OF DRIVING PRIVILEGE AND IDENTIFICATION CARD

DRIVING PRIVILEGE STATUS: DRIVER LICENSE VALID

LICENSE STATUS: DRIVER LICENSE VALID

CLASS: 29-MAY NOT TRANSPORT STUDENT PASSENGERS WITHOUT VALID SCHOOL BUS CERTIFICATE
42-M-MAY NOT OPERATE CLASS A PASSENGER VEHICLES
64-E-CLASS A/B-LIMITED TO VEHICLE WITH AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION

SE ISSUED: 06-02-25 MAILED: 06-13-25 EXPIRES: 11-27-29

REMAINED: NO DATE CLASS: B COMMERCIAL

VETERAN: [REDACTED] UPDATED: [REDACTED]

LEGAL PRESENCE VERIFICATION CODE: [REDACTED]

T NUMBER: [REDACTED] DATE: [REDACTED] UPDATED: 12-18-24

U.S. Work Authorization

Expires March, 2029

Given Name: [REDACTED] USCIS# [REDACTED] Category Card# [REDACTED]

Terms and Conditions: None

Date of Birth: [REDACTED] Sex: [REDACTED]

Country of Birth: Brazil

Valid From: [REDACTED] Card Expires: 03/29/29

Driver CDL expiration date **eight months** beyond expiration date of work authorization



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EXAMPLE 3

DRIVER RECORD REQUESTED: [REDACTED]
THIS CONTAINS SEGMENTS 1 & 2 OF THIS RECORD
California Issued CDL
DRIVER LICENSE: Expires June, 2030 CARD # NONE ISSUED
NAME: [REDACTED] BIRTHDATE: [REDACTED]
OTHER NAMES ON FILE: [REDACTED]
** ALL ADDRESSES ON THIS RECORD ARE CONFIDENTIAL **
MAILING ADDRESS AS OF 06-02-25: [REDACTED]
OTHER ADDRESS AS OF 01-14-15: [REDACTED]
PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION
SEX: [REDACTED] HAIR: [REDACTED] EYES: [REDACTED] HEIGHT: [REDACTED] WEIGHT: [REDACTED]
SEGMENT 2 - STATUS OF DRIVING PRIVILEGE AND IDENTIFICATION CARD
LICENSE/DRIVING PRIVILEGE STATUS: DRIVER LICENSE VALID
COMMERCIAL LICENSE STATUS: DRIVER LICENSE VALID
RESTRICTIONS: NONE
DRIVER LICENSE ISSUED: 06-02-25 MAILED: 06-12-25 EXPIRES: 06-01-30
REMAILED: NO DATE CLASS: A COMMERCIAL
ORGAN DONOR/VETERAN: [REDACTED] UPDATED: [REDACTED]
BIRTHDATE/LEGAL PRESENCE VERIFICATION CODE: [REDACTED]
INS DOCUMENT NUMBER: [REDACTED]
EXPIRES: NO DATE UPDATED: 06-01-23
RESIDENCY VERIFICATION: [REDACTED]
ENDORSEMENTS: T (OT) DOUBLES/TRIPLES
N (TV) TANK VEHICLE

U.S. Work Authorization

Expires May, 2021



Driver CDL expiration date **nine years** beyond expiration date of work authorization

EXAMPLE 4

AND CONTAINS SEGMENTS 1 & 2 OF THIS RECORD
California Issued CDL
DRIVER: [REDACTED]
NAME: [REDACTED] EXPIRES February, 2031
** ALL ADDRESSES ON THIS RECORD ARE CONFIDENTIAL **
MAILING ADDRESS AS OF 08-18-25: [REDACTED]
OTHER ADDRESS AS OF 06-04-25: [REDACTED]
PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION
SEX: [REDACTED] HAIR: [REDACTED] EYES: [REDACTED] HEIGHT: [REDACTED] WEIGHT: [REDACTED]
SEGMENT 2 - STATUS OF DRIVING PRIVILEGE AND IDENTIFICATION CARD
LICENSE/DRIVING PRIVILEGE STATUS: DRIVER LICENSE VALID
COMMERCIAL LICENSE STATUS: DRIVER LICENSE VALID
RESTRICTIONS: 01-MUST WEAR CORRECTIVE LENSES WHEN DRIVING
46-MUST WEAR CORRECTIVE LENSES WHEN DRIVING
COMMERCIAL
DRIVER LICENSE ISSUED: 08-18-25 MAILED: 08-28-25 EXPIRES: 02-10-31
REMAILED: NO DATE CLASS: A COMMERCIAL
ORGAN DONOR/VETERAN: [REDACTED] UPDATED: [REDACTED]
BIRTHDATE/LEGAL PRESENCE VERIFICATION CODE: [REDACTED]
INS DOCUMENT NUMBER: [REDACTED]
EXPIRES: NO DATE UPDATED: [REDACTED]
RESIDENCY VERIFICATION: [REDACTED]
ENDORSEMENTS: T (OT) DOUBLES/TRIPLES
N (TV) TANK VEHICLE

U.S. Work Authorization

Expires April, 2027



Driver CDL expiration date **four years** beyond expiration date of work authorization