

Issued in Washington, DC on July 3, 2007.

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[FR Doc. 07-3340 Filed 7-9-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-M

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

[Docket No. FMCSA-2006-26602]

Notice of Request for Information (RFI): Renew Approval of an Information Collection; OMB Control No. 2126-0011 (Commercial Driver Licensing and Test Standards)

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

ACTION: Notice; request for information.

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 review and approval and invites public comment. The FMCSA requests approval to revise an ICR entitled, "*Commercial Driver Licensing and Test Standards*." This information collection is needed to ensure that drivers, motor carriers and the States are complying with notification and recordkeeping requirements for information related to testing, licensing, violations, convictions and disqualifications and that the information is accurate, complete and transmitted and recorded within certain time periods as required by the Commercial Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1986 (CMVSA), as amended.

DATES: We must receive your comments on or before September 10, 2007.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments by any of the following methods. Please identify your comments by the FMCSA Docket Number FMCSA-2006-26602.

- **Web site:** <http://dms.dot.gov>. Follow instructions for submitting comments to the Docket.

- **Fax:** 202-493-2251.

- **Mail:** U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M-30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC 20590.

- **Hand Delivery:** U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M-30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington DC 20590 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., e.t., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

- **Docket:** For access to the Docket Management System (DMS) to read background documents or comments received, go to <http://dms.dot.gov> at any time or to the U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M-30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington DC 20590 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., e.t., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The DMS is available electronically 24 hours each day, 365 days each year. If you want notification of receipt of your comments, please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope, or postcard or print the acknowledgement page that appears after submitting comments on-line.

- **Privacy Act:** Anyone is able to search the electronic form of all comments received into any of our dockets by the name of the individual submitting the comment (or signing the comment, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). You may review DOT's complete Privacy Act Statement in the **Federal Register** on April 11, 2000 (65 FR 19477), or you may visit <http://dms.dot.gov>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Robert Redmond, Office of Safety Programs, Commercial Driver's License Division (MC-ESL), Department of Transportation, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, West Building 6th Floor, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE., Washington, DC 20590-0001. Telephone: 202-366-5014; e-mail: robert.redmond@dot.gov. Office hours are from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., e.t., Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The licensed drivers in the United States deserve reasonable assurance that their fellow motorists are properly qualified to drive the vehicles they operate. Before the Commercial Motor Vehicle Safety Act of 1986 (CMVSA or the Act at Attachment A) Public Law 99-570, Title XII, 100 Stat. 3207-170) was signed by the President on October 27, 1986, 18 States and the District of Columbia authorized any person licensed to drive an automobile to also legally drive a large truck or bus. No special training or special license was required to drive these vehicles, even though it was widely recognized that operation of certain types of vehicles called for special skills, knowledge and training. Even in the 32 States that had a classified driver licensing system in place, only 12 of these States required

an applicant to take a skills test in a representative vehicle. Equally serious was the problem of drivers possessing multiple driver licenses that enabled these commercial motor vehicle (CMV) drivers to avoid license suspension for traffic law convictions. By spreading their convictions among several States, CMV drivers could avoid punishment for their infringements, and stay behind the wheel.

The CMVSA addressed these problems. Section 12002 of the Act makes it illegal for a CMV operator to have more than one driver's license. Section 12003 requires the CMV driver conducting operations in commerce to notify both the designated State of licensure official and the driver's employer of any convictions of State or local laws relating to traffic control (except parking tickets). This section also requires each person who applies for employment as a CMV operator to notify prospective employers of all previous employment as a CMV operator for at least the previous ten years.

In section 12005 of the Act, the Secretary of Transportation (Secretary) is required to develop minimum Federal standards for testing and licensing of operators of CMVs.

Section 12007 of the Act also directs the Secretary, in cooperation with the States, to develop a clearinghouse to aid the States in implementing the one driver, one license, and one driving record requirement. This clearinghouse is known as the commercial driver's license information system (CDLIS).

The CMVSA further requires each person who has a CDL suspended, revoked or canceled by a State, or who is disqualified from operating a CMV for any period, to notify his or her employer of such actions. Drivers of CMVs must notify their employers within 1 business day of being notified of the license suspension, revocation, and cancellation, or of the lost right to operate or disqualification. These requirements are reflected in 49 CFR part 383, titled "*Commercial Driver's License Standards; Requirements and Penalties*."

Specifically, section 383.21 prohibits a person from having more than one license; section 383.31 requires notification of convictions for driver violations; section 383.33 requires notification of driver's license suspensions; section 383.35 requires notification of previous employment; and section 383.37 outlines employer responsibilities. Section 383.111 requires the passing of a knowledge test by the driver and section 383.113 requires the passing of a skills test by

the driver; section 383.115 contains the requirement for the double/triple trailer endorsement, section 383.117 contains the requirement for the passenger endorsement, section 383.119 contains the requirement for the tank vehicle endorsement and section 383.121 contains the requirement for the hazardous materials endorsement.

Section 12011 of the CMVSA states that the Secretary shall withhold a portion of the Federal-aid highway funds apportioned to a State if the State does not substantially comply with the requirements in section 12009(a) of the Act. The information gathered during State compliance reviews is used to determine whether States are complying with these requirements.

A final rule was published on July 31, 2002 (67 FR 49742) implementing 15 of the 16 CDL related provisions of the Motor Carrier Safety Improvement Act of 1999 (MCSIA) (Public Law 106–159, 113 Stat. 1748 (Dec. 9, 1999)) (Attachment B) that were designed to enhance the safety of drivers on our nation's highways by ensuring that only safe drivers operate CMVs. These new requirements are contained in 49 CFR part 383 and include: five new major and serious disqualifying offenses (section 383.51): Non-CMV disqualifying offenses by a CDL holder (section 383.51); disqualification of drivers determined to be an imminent hazard (section 383.52); a new school bus endorsement (section 383.123); a prohibition on issuing a hardship license to operate a CMV while under suspension (section 384.210); a prohibition on masking convictions (section 384.226); and various requirements for transmitting, posting and retaining driver convictions and disqualification records.

An interim final rule (IFR) was published on May 5, 2003 (68 FR 23844) as a companion rule to the Transportation Security Administration's (TSA's) May 5, 2003 IFR implementing section 1012 of the USA PATRIOT Act (Public Law 107–56) (Attachment C) on security threat assessments for drivers applying for or renewing a CDL with a hazardous materials endorsement. While TSA set the requirements in their rule; FMCSA has the responsibility as part of the CDL testing and issuance process to ensure that States are in compliance with the TSA requirements.

This information collection supports the DOT Strategic Goal of Safety by requiring that drivers of CMVs are properly licensed according to all applicable Federal requirements.

The 10-year employment history information supplied by the CDL holder

to the employer upon application for employment (49 CFR 383.35) is used to assist the employer in meeting his/her responsibilities to ensure that the applicant does not have a history of high safety risk behavior.

State officials use the information collected on the license application form (49 CFR 383.71), the medical certificate information that is posted to the driving record (proposed) and the conviction and disqualification data posted to the driving record (49 CFR 383.73) to prevent unqualified and/or disqualified CDL holders from operating CMVs on the nation's highways. State officials are also required to administer knowledge and skills tests to CDL driver applicants (49 CFR 384.202). The driver applicant is required to correctly answer at least 80 percent of the questions on each knowledge test in order to achieve a passing score on that test. To achieve a passing score on the skills test, the driver applicant must demonstrate that he/she can successfully perform all of the skills listed in the regulations. During State CDL compliance reviews, FMCSA officials review this information to ensure that the provisions of the regulations are being carried out. Without the aforementioned requirements, there would be no uniform control over driver licensing practices to prevent unqualified and/or disqualified drivers from being issued a CDL and to prevent unsafe drivers from spreading their convictions among several licenses in several States and remaining behind the wheel of a CMV. Failure to collect this information would render the regulations unenforceable.

Information submitted by the States will be used by the FMCSA to determine if individual States are in "substantial compliance" with section 12009(a) of the CMVSA. The FMCSA reviews information submitted by the States and conducts such reviews, audits, and investigations of each State once every three years or as it deems necessary to make compliance determinations for all States and the District of Columbia. If this information were not available, the FMCSA would have no means of independently verifying State compliance.

This request for renewed approval includes three additional information collection items: (1) "State completing documents for a State-CDL compliance review [49 CFR 384]," (2) "CDL Knowledge and Skills Tests Recordkeeping [49 CFR 384.202]" and (3) driver renewals under "Driver Completion of the CDL Application [49 CFR 383.71]."

Title: Commercial Driver Licensing and Test Standards.

OMB Number: 2126–0011.

Type of Request: Revision of a currently-approved information collection.

Respondents: Drivers with a commercial driver's license (CDL) and State driver licensing agencies.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 8,332,800 driver respondents and 7,870,400 State respondents.

Estimated Time per Response: 5.15 minutes per response.

Expiration Date: April 30, 2007.

Frequency of Response: Variable.

Estimated Total Annual Burden: 1,391,456 hours.

The Information Collection is Comprised of Seven Components

(1) *Notification of Convictions/Disqualifications:* There are approximately 11.52 million active commercial driver's license (CDL) driver records. Each driver averages 1 conviction every 3 years. The estimated number of annual responses = $3,840,000$ (11.52 million CDL drivers/3 = 3,840,000). It takes approximately 10 minutes to notify a motor carrier concerning convictions. The notification requirement has an estimated annual burden of 640,000 burden hours ($3,840,000$ convictions $\times$ 10/60 hours = 640,000 hours);

(2) *Providing Previous Employment History:* The estimated annual turnover rate of drivers is approximately 14 percent (%). There are an estimated 1,612,800 annual responses to this requirement (11.52 million CDL drivers $\times$.14 annual turnover rate = 1,612,800). It takes approximately 15 minutes to complete this requirement. The employment history requirement has an estimated annual burden of 403,200 hours ($1,612,800$ annual responses $\times$ 15/60 hours = 403,200 hours);

(3) *State Certification of Compliance:* There are 51 responses (50 States and the District of Columbia) to this requirement and it takes approximately 32 hours to complete each response. The compliance certification requirement has an estimated annual burden of 1,632 hours (51 responses $\times$ 32 hours = 1,632 hours);

(4) *State Compliance Review Documentation:* A State CDL compliance review is conducted approximately every 3.4 years. There are 15 responses (51 States/3.4 years = 15 States/year). It takes approximately 160 hours to complete each response. The State compliance review documentation requirement has an estimated annual burden of 2,400 hours (15 States $\times$ 160 hours = 2,400 hours).

(5) *CDLIS Recordkeeping*: Fifty (50) States and the District of Columbia are required to enter data into the commercial driver's license information system (CDLIS) about operators of CMVs and to perform record checks before issuing, renewing, upgrading or transferring a CDL.

There are approximately 576,000 new drivers a year ($11.52 \text{ million drivers} \times .05 = 576,000 \text{ new drivers}$). We estimate that the average amount of time for each CDLIS inquiry performed by a State to add a new driver is 2 minutes. The new driver requirement has an estimated annual burden of 19,200 hours ($576,000 \text{ transactions} \times 2/60 = 19,200 \text{ hours}$).

There are 230,400 drivers a year who change their State of domicile ($11.52 \text{ million drivers} \times .02 = 230,400 \text{ drivers}$). We estimate that the average amount of time for each CDLIS inquiry performed by a State to change a driver's State of domicile is 2 minutes. The change State of domicile requirement has an estimated annual burden of 7,680 hours ($230,400 \text{ transactions} \times 2/60 \text{ hours} = 7,680 \text{ hours}$).

Approximately 25 percent of convictions result in a disqualification. There are 4,800,000 driver convictions and disqualifications ($3,840,000 \text{ convictions} \times 1.25 = 4,800,000$). We estimate that the average amount of time for each transaction performed by a State is 2 minutes. The driver conviction/disqualification transaction requirement has an estimated annual burden of 160,000 hours ($4,800,000 \text{ transactions} \times 2/60 \text{ hours} = 160,000 \text{ hours}$).

Approximately 33 percent of active CDL drivers have a hazardous materials endorsement. The average renewal period is approximately 5 years. There are 760,320 drivers a year applying for or renewing a hazardous materials endorsement to their CDL ($11.52 \text{ million active CDL drivers} \times .33/5 \text{ years} = 760,320 \text{ drivers}$). We estimate that the average amount of time for each citizenship/resident alien status check performed by a State is 2 minutes. The citizenship/resident alien status check transaction requirement has an estimated annual burden of 25,344 hours ($760,320 \text{ transactions} \times 2/60 \text{ hours} = 25,344 \text{ hours}$).

The total burden hours for these combined collection of information activities is 212,224 hours ($19,200 \text{ hours} + 7,680 \text{ hours} + 160,000 \text{ hours} + 25,344 \text{ hours} = 212,224 \text{ hours}$).

(6) *CDL Application Form*: There are approximately 576,000 new CDL applicants a year. It takes approximately 1 minute to complete the CDL application. The new applicant CDL application requirement has an

estimated annual burden of 9,600 hours ($576,000 \text{ applications} \times 1/60 \text{ hours} = 9,600 \text{ hours}$).

The average CDL renewal period is approximately 5 years. Therefore, 2,304,000 drivers renew their CDL a year ($11.52 \text{ million active CDL drivers} / 5 \text{ years} = 2,304,000 \text{ drivers}$). It takes approximately 1 minute for renewal drivers to complete the CDL application. The renewal driver CDL application requirement has an estimated annual burden of 38,400 hours ($2,304,000 \times 1/60 \text{ hours} = 38,400 \text{ hours}$).

The total burden hours for these combined collection of information activities is 48,000 hours ($9,600 \text{ hours} + 38,400 \text{ hours} = 48,000 \text{ hours}$).

(7) *Knowledge and Skills Test Recordkeeping*: There are approximately 576,000 new CDL applicants a year. It takes approximately 2 minute to record the results of knowledge tests and 5 minutes for the skills tests. Approximately 25 percent of the applicants fail the knowledge and skills tests.

The knowledge test recordkeeping requirement has an estimated annual burden of 24,000 hours ($576,000 \text{ applicants} \times 2/60 \text{ hours} \times 1.25 = 24,000 \text{ hours}$).

The skills test recordkeeping requirement has an estimated annual burden of 60,000 hours ($576,000 \text{ applicants} \times 5/60 \text{ hours} \times 1.25 = 60,000$).

The total burden hours are 84,000 hours for these combined activities ($24,000 + 60,000 = 84,000$).

Definitions: Under 49 CFR 383.5, a CMV is defined as a motor vehicle or combination of motor vehicles which: (a) Has a gross combination weight rating of 11,794 or more kilograms (kg) (26,001 or more pounds (lbs) inclusive of a towed unit with a gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) of more than 4,536 kg (10,000 lbs)); (b) has a GVWR of 11,794 or more kg (26,001 or more lbs); (c) is designed to transport 16 or more passengers, including the driver; or (d) is of any size and is used to transport hazardous materials as hazardous materials are defined in 49 CFR 383.5.

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 FMCSA's performance; (2) the accuracy of the estimated burden; (3) ways for the 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 information collection.

Issued on: June 29, 2007.

D. Marlene Thomas,

Associate Administrator for Administration.

[FR Doc. E7-13376 Filed 7-9-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-EX-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Maritime Administration

Reports, Forms and Recordkeeping Requirements; Agency Information Collection Activity Under OMB Review

AGENCY: Maritime Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.), this notice announces that the Information Collection abstracted below has been forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and approval. The nature of the information collection is described as well as its expected burden. The **Federal Register** Notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on the following collection of information was published on April 23, 2007. No comments were received.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before August 9, 2007.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Rodney McFadden, Maritime Administration, 1200 New Jersey Ave., SE., Washington, DC 20590. Telephone: 202-366-2647, FAX: 202-366-7403 or e-mail: rodney.mcfadden@dot.gov. Copies of this collection also can be obtained from that office.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Maritime Administration (MARAD).

Title: Elements of Request for Course Approval.

OMB Control Number: 2133-0535.

Type of Request: Extension of currently approved collection.

Affected Public: Respondents are public and private maritime security course training providers.

Forms: None.

Abstract: Under this voluntary collection, public and private maritime security training course providers may choose to provide the Maritime Administration (MARAD) with information concerning the content and operation of their courses. MARAD will use this information to evaluate whether the course meets the training standards and curriculum promulgated under Section 109 of the Maritime