

Management Facility in Room W12-140 on the ground floor of the DOT West Building, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., ET, Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

B. Privacy Act

In accordance with 5 U.S.C. 553(c), DOT solicits comments from the public to better inform its rulemaking 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.

II. Background

On October 25, 2018, FMCSA published a notice announcing its decision to renew exemptions for three individuals from the epilepsy and seizure disorders prohibition in 49 CFR 391.41(b)(8) to operate a CMV in interstate commerce and requested comments from the public (83 FR 53951). The public comment period ended on November 26, 2018, and one comment was received.

As stated in the previous notice, FMCSA has evaluated the eligibility of these applicants and determined that renewing these exemptions would achieve a level of safety equivalent to, or greater than, the level that would be achieved by complying with the current regulation 49 CFR 391.41(b)(8).

The physical qualification standard for drivers regarding epilepsy found in 49 CFR 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 in determining whether drivers with certain medical conditions are qualified to operate a CMV in interstate commerce. [49 CFR part 391, APPENDIX A TO PART 391—MEDICAL ADVISORY CRITERIA, section H. Epilepsy: § 391.41(b)(8), paragraphs 3, 4, and 5.]

III. Discussion of Comments

FMCSA received one comment in this proceeding. The commenter stated his concerns about drivers who have experienced a seizure operating commercial motor vehicles. He also stated his recommendation that drivers who have experienced a seizure be seizure free for a certain period before

receiving an exemption. FMCSA does not grant exemptions to drivers unless the drivers meet established guidelines for the time since the last seizure was experienced.

IV. Conclusion

Based on its evaluation of the three renewal exemption applications and the comment received, FMCSA announces its decision to exempt the following drivers from the epilepsy and seizure disorders prohibition in 49 CFR 391.41(b)(8): Peter R. Bender, (MN); Terry D. Hamber, (NC); and Louis W. Lerch, (IA).

The drivers were included in docket number FMCSA-2014-0212. Their exemptions are applicable as of August 28, 2018, and will expire on August 28, 2020.

In accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31315, each exemption will be valid for two 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 and 31315.

Issued on: January 30, 2019.

Larry W. Minor,

Associate Administrator for Policy.

[FR Doc. 2019-01274 Filed 2-5-19; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-EX-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

[Docket No. FMCSA-1998-4334; FMCSA-2000-7165; FMCSA-2000-7363; FMCSA-2002-12294; FMCSA-2004-18885; FMCSA-2008-0174; FMCSA-2008-0231; FMCSA-2008-0266; FMCSA-2008-0292; FMCSA-2010-0082; FMCSA-2010-0114; FMCSA-2010-0161; FMCSA-2010-0187; FMCSA-2011-0276; FMCSA-2012-0160; FMCSA-2012-0214; FMCSA-2012-0279; FMCSA-2012-0280; FMCSA-2013-0169; FMCSA-2013-0174; FMCSA-2014-0003; FMCSA-2014-0007; FMCSA-2014-0011; FMCSA-2014-0296; FMCSA-2014-0298; FMCSA-2015-0344; FMCSA-2016-0025; FMCSA-2016-0027; FMCSA-2016-0031; FMCSA-2016-0033; FMCSA-2016-0207; FMCSA-2016-0208; FMCSA-2016-0210; FMCSA-2016-0212]

Qualification of Drivers; Exemption Applications; Vision

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

ACTION: Notice of final disposition.

SUMMARY: FMCSA announces its decision to renew exemptions for 67 individuals from the vision requirement in the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (FMCSRs) for interstate commercial motor vehicle (CMV) drivers. The exemptions enable these individuals to continue to operate CMVs in interstate commerce without meeting the vision requirement in one eye.

DATES: Each group of renewed exemptions were applicable on the dates stated in the discussions below and will expire on the dates stated in the discussions below.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Christine A. Hydock, Chief, Medical Programs Division, 202-366-4001, fmcsamedical@dot.gov, FMCSA, Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Room W64-224, Washington, DC 20590-0001. Office hours are from 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 Docket Services, telephone (202) 366-9826.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Public Participation

A. Viewing Documents and Comments

To view comments, as well as any documents mentioned in this notice as being available in the docket, go to <http://www.regulations.gov>. Insert the docket number, FMCSA-1998-4334; FMCSA-2000-7165; FMCSA-2000-7363; FMCSA-2002-12294; FMCSA-2004-18885; FMCSA-2008-0174; FMCSA-2008-0231; FMCSA-2008-0266; FMCSA-2008-0292; FMCSA-2010-0082; FMCSA-2010-0114; FMCSA-2010-0161; FMCSA-2010-0187; FMCSA-2011-0276; FMCSA-2012-0160; FMCSA-2012-0214; FMCSA-2012-0279; FMCSA-2012-0280; FMCSA-2013-0169; FMCSA-2013-0174; FMCSA-2014-0003; FMCSA-2014-0007; FMCSA-2014-0011; FMCSA-2014-0296; FMCSA-2014-0298; FMCSA-2015-0344; FMCSA-2016-0025; FMCSA-2016-0027; FMCSA-2016-0031; FMCSA-2016-0033; FMCSA-2016-0207; FMCSA-2016-0208; FMCSA-2016-0210; FMCSA-2016-0212, in the keyword box, and click "Search." Next, click the "Open Docket Folder" button and choose the document to review. If you do not have access to the internet, you may view the docket online by visiting the Docket Management Facility in Room W12-140 on the ground floor of the DOT West Building, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC

20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., ET, Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

B. Privacy Act

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II. Background

On November 9, 2018, FMCSA published a notice announcing its decision to renew exemptions for 67 individuals from the vision requirement in 49 CFR 391.41(b)(10) to operate a CMV in interstate commerce and requested comments from the public (83 FR 56143). The public comment period ended on December 10, 2018, and no comments were received.

As stated in the previous notice, FMCSA has evaluated the eligibility of these applicants and determined that renewing these exemptions would achieve a level of safety equivalent to, or greater than, the level that would be achieved by complying with the current regulation 49 CFR 391.41(b)(10).

The physical qualification standard for drivers regarding vision found in 49 CFR 391.41(b)(10) states that a person is physically qualified to drive a CMV if that person has distant visual acuity of at least 20/40 (Snellen) in each eye without corrective lenses or visual acuity separately corrected to 20/40 (Snellen) or better with corrective lenses, distant binocular acuity of at least 20/40 (Snellen) in both eyes with or without corrective lenses, field of vision of at least 70° in the horizontal meridian in each eye, and the ability to recognize the colors of traffic signals and devices showing red, green, and amber.

III. Discussion of Comments

FMCSA received no comments in this preceding.

IV. Conclusion

Based on its evaluation of the 67 renewal exemption applications and comments received, FMCSA confirms its decision to exempt the following drivers from the vision requirement in 49 CFR 391.41(b)(10).

In accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315, the following groups of drivers received renewed exemptions in the month of December and are discussed below. As of December 3, 2018, and in accordance with 49 U.S.C.

31136(e) and 31315, the following 38 individuals have satisfied the renewal conditions for obtaining an exemption from the vision requirement in the FMCSRs for interstate CMV drivers (63 FR 66227; 64 FR 16520; 65 FR 33406; 65 FR 57234; 67 FR 46016; 67 FR 57266; 67 FR 57627; 69 FR 51346; 69 FR 52741; 71 FR 50970; 71 FR 53489; 73 FR 38497; 73 FR 46973; 73 FR 48273; 73 FR 51336; 73 FR 51689; 73 FR 54888; 73 FR 63047; 73 FR 75807; 75 FR 25918; 75 FR 34209; 75 FR 39725; 75 FR 39729; 75 FR 44051; 75 FR 47883; 75 FR 47886; 75 FR 52062; 75 FR 52063; 75 FR 61833; 75 FR 63257; 75 FR 64396; 76 FR 67248; 76 FR 79761; 77 FR 36338; 77 FR 38381; 77 FR 46153; 77 FR 46793; 77 FR 51846; 77 FR 52388; 77 FR 52389; 77 FR 56262; 77 FR 59245; 77 FR 60008; 77 FR 60010; 77 FR 64582; 77 FR 71671; 78 FR 64274; 78 FR 76705; 78 FR 77778; 79 FR 1908; 79 FR 14333; 79 FR 14571; 79 FR 28588; 79 FR 35220; 79 FR 38659; 79 FR 41740; 79 FR 46153; 79 FR 46300; 79 FR 52388; 79 FR 53514; 79 FR 56099; 79 FR 56104; 79 FR 58856; 79 FR 65760; 79 FR 70928; 79 FR 72754; 80 FR 76345; 81 FR 21647; 81 FR 26305; 81 FR 52514; 81 FR 59266; 81 FR 66724; 81 FR 68098; 81 FR 70248; 81 FR 70253; 81 FR 71173; 81 FR 72664; 81 FR 74494; 81 FR 80161; 81 FR 81230; 81 FR 90046; 81 FR 90050; 81 FR 94013; 81 FR 96180; 81 FR 96191);

Gary R. Andersen (NE)
Theodore N. Belcher (VA)
Daniel S. Billig (MN)
Thomas A. Black (MO)
Robert S. Bowen (GA)
Brian E. Broux (CA)
John M. Brown (KY)
Tracy L. Butcher (VA)
Jonathan E. Carriaga (NM)
Irvin L. Eaddy (SC)
Terry J. Edwards (MO)
Stephen R. Ehlenburg (IL)
Frank J. Faria (CA)
Christopher K. Foot (NV)
Claudia E. Gerez-Betancourt (TX)
Billy R. Gibbs (MD)
Samuel R. Graziano (PA)
Tyrane Harper (AL)
Christopher M. Keen (KS)
Theodore Kirby (MD)
Johnny Montemayor (TX)
Derrick P. Moore (MN)
Richard L. Moores (CO)
Aaron F. Naylor (PA)
Billy R. Oguynn (AL)
Ronald W. Patten (ME)
Benny D. Patterson (OH)
Alexander L. Resh (PA)
David T. Rueckert (WA)
Benito Saldana (TX)
Daniel Salinas (OR)
Kenneth D. Sisk (NC)
Sherman L. Taylor (FL)
Richard T. Traigle (LA)

Melvin V. Van Meter (PA)
Emejildo M. Vargas (NH)
Christopher M. Vincent (NC)
Wilbert Walden (NC)

The drivers were included in docket numbers FMCSA-1998-4334; FMCSA-2000-7165; FMCSA-2002-12294; FMCSA-2008-0174; FMCSA-2008-0231; FMCSA-2008-0266; FMCSA-2010-0082; FMCSA-2010-0114; FMCSA-2010-0161; FMCSA-2010-0187; FMCSA-2011-0276; FMCSA-2012-0160; FMCSA-2012-0214; FMCSA-2012-0279; FMCSA-2013-0169; FMCSA-2013-0174; FMCSA-2014-0003; FMCSA-2014-0007; FMCSA-2014-0011; FMCSA-2014-0296; FMCSA-2015-0344; FMCSA-2016-0025; FMCSA-2016-0027; FMCSA-2016-0031; FMCSA-2016-0033; FMCSA-2016-0207; FMCSA-2016-0208; FMCSA-2016-0210. Their exemptions are applicable as of December 3, 2018, and will expire on December 3, 2020.

As of December 8, 2018, and in accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315, the following seven individuals have satisfied the renewal conditions for obtaining an exemption from the vision requirement in the FMCSRs for interstate CMV drivers (65 FR 45817; 65 FR 77066; 67 FR 71610; 69 FR 53493; 69 FR 62742; 69 FR 64810; 71 FR 62148; 71 FR 66217; 73 FR 61922; 73 FR 61925; 73 FR 74565; 75 FR 77949; 77 FR 68202; 79 FR 65759; 81 FR 96180):

Ronald W. Garner (WA)
Wayne R. Mantela (KY)
Carl M. McIntire (OH)
Bernice R. Parnell (NC)
Patrick W. Shea (MA)
Roy F. Varnado, Jr. (LA)
Michael J. Welle (MN)

The drivers were included in docket numbers FMCSA-2000-7363; FMCSA-2004-18885; FMCSA-2008-0292. Their exemptions are applicable as of December 8, 2018, and will expire on December 8, 2020.

As of December 20, 2018, and in accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315, the following five individuals have satisfied the renewal conditions for obtaining an exemption from the vision requirement in the FMCSRs for interstate CMV drivers (77 FR 64839; 77 FR 75494; 79 FR 73393; 81 FR 96180):
Ronald J. Bergman (OH)
Noah E. Bowen (OH)
Lawrence D. Malecha (MN)
Jerry M. Puckett (OH)
Emin Toric (GA)

The drivers were included in docket number FMCSA-2012-0280. Their exemptions are applicable as of December 20, 2018, and will expire on December 20, 2020.

As of December 25, 2018, and in accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315, the following seven individuals have satisfied the renewal conditions for obtaining an exemption from the vision requirement in the FMCSRs for interstate CMV drivers (79 FR 69985; 80 FR 8927; 81 FR 96180):

Thurman T. Clayton (LA)
Tig G. Cornell (ID)
Jon R. Davidson (CO)
Edwin T. Donaldson (PA)
Keith C. Lendt (MN)
Joseph McTear (TX)
Daniel R. Thompson (PA)

The drivers were included in docket number FMCSA–2014–0298. Their exemptions are applicable as of December 25, 2018, and will expire on December 25, 2020.

As of December 30, 2018, and in accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315, the following ten individuals have satisfied the renewal conditions for obtaining an exemption from the vision requirement in the FMCSRs for interstate CMV drivers (81 FR 86063; 82 FR 96180):

Brian T. Castoldi (CT)
Willie George (NY)
David E. Goff (MA)
Michal Golebiowski (IL)
Loyd F. Hovey (NY)
George T. Huffman (IL)
Julio Rivera (FL)
Willie J. Smith (TX)
John D. Stork (IL)
James R. Wagner (IL)

The drivers were included in docket number FMCSA–2016–0212. Their exemptions are applicable as of December 30, 2018, and will expire on December 30, 2020.

In accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31315, each exemption will be valid for two 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 and 31315.

Issued on: January 30, 2019.

Larry W. Minor,

Associate Administrator for Policy.

[FR Doc. 2019–01257 Filed 2–5–19; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–EX–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

[Docket No. FMCSA–2018–0018]

Qualification of Drivers; Exemption Applications; Vision

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

ACTION: Notice of final disposition.

SUMMARY: FMCSA announces its decision to exempt 11 individuals from the vision requirement in the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (FMCSRs) to operate a commercial motor vehicle (CMV) in interstate commerce. They are unable to meet the vision requirement in one eye for various reasons. The exemptions enable these individuals to operate CMVs in interstate commerce without meeting the vision requirement in one eye.

DATES: The exemptions were applicable on November 24, 2018. The exemptions expire on November 24, 2020.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Christine A. Hydock, Chief, Medical Programs Division, (202) 366–4001, fmcamedical@dot.gov, FMCSA, Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Room W64–224, Washington, DC 20590–0001. Office hours are from 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 Docket Services, telephone (202) 366–9826.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Public Participation

A. Viewing Documents and Comments

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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

On October 24, 2018, FMCSA published a notice announcing receipt of applications from 11 individuals requesting an exemption from vision requirement in 49 CFR 391.41(b)(10) and requested comments from the public (83 FR 53727). The public comment period ended on November 23, 2018, and no comments were received.

FMCSA has evaluated the eligibility of these applicants and determined that granting the exemptions to these individuals would achieve a level of safety equivalent to, or greater than, the level that would be achieved by complying with the current regulation 49 CFR 391.41(b)(10).

The physical qualification standard for drivers regarding vision found in 49 CFR 391.41(b)(10) states that a person is physically qualified to drive a CMV if that person has distant visual acuity of at least 20/40 (Snellen) in each eye without corrective lenses or visual acuity separately corrected to 20/40 (Snellen) or better with corrective lenses, distant binocular acuity of at least 20/40 (Snellen) in both eyes with or without corrective lenses, field of vision of at least 70° in the horizontal meridian in each eye, and the ability to recognize the colors of traffic signals and devices showing red, green, and amber.

III. Discussion of Comments

FMCSA received no comments in this proceeding.

IV. Basis for Exemption Determination

Under 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315, FMCSA may grant an exemption for up to five years from the vision standard in 49 CFR 391.41(b)(10) if the exemption is likely to achieve an equivalent or greater level of safety than would be achieved without the exemption. The exemption allows applicants to operate CMVs in interstate commerce. FMCSA grants exemptions from the FMCSRs for a two-year period to align with the maximum duration of a driver's medical certification.

The Agency's decision regarding these exemption applications is based on medical reports about the applicants' vision, as well as their driving records and experience driving with the vision deficiency. The qualifications, experience, and medical condition of each applicant were stated and