

Medical Requirements for Commercial Drivers

To obtain a Commercial Learner's Permit or Commercial Driver's License, you will need to meet the physician qualifications to have a valid Medical Examiner's Certificate (MEC) issued by a certified Medical Examiner (ME). The ME will submit the information to DMV. If you do not meet the minimum standards, you may qualify for a federal variance or state waiver. For more detailed information regarding the qualifications, review the Electronic Code of Federal Regulations (eCFR) 391.41.

Physical Qualifications of Drivers

A person is considered physically fit to safely operate a commercial motor vehicle, if they meet the following physical qualifications:

1. Has no loss of a foot, a leg, a hand, or an arm.
2. Has no impairment of:
 - A hand or finger affecting their ability to grasp or hold objects firmly.
 - Any significant limb defect or limitation which interferes with the ability to perform normal tasks.
3. Has no established medical history or clinical diagnosis of diabetes mellitus currently treated with insulin for control unless the person meets the requirements in eCFR 391.46.
 - New Diabetes Standard Overview Webinar | FMCSA (dot.gov)
 - Non-Insulin-Treated Diabetes Mellitus Assessment Form, MCSA-5872 (optional) | FMCSA (dot.gov)
 - Insulin-Treated Diabetes Mellitus Assessment Form, MCSA-5870 | FMCSA
4. Has no current clinical diagnosis of myocardial infarction, angina pectoris, coronary insufficiency, thrombosis, or any other cardiovascular disease of a variety known to be accompanied by syncope, dyspnea, collapse, or congestive cardiac failure.

5. Has no established medical history or clinical diagnosis of a respiratory dysfunction.
6. Has no current clinical diagnosis of high blood pressure.
7. Has no established medical history or clinical diagnosis of rheumatic, arthritic, orthopedic, muscular, neuromuscular, or vascular disease.
8. Has no established medical history or clinical diagnosis of epilepsy or any other condition, which is likely to cause loss of consciousness.
9. Has no mental, nervous, organic, or functional disease or psychiatric disorder.
10. Must meet vision standards set forth in eCFR 391.41 or meet the Alternate Vision Standards (AVS) set forth in eCFR 391.44.

For more information on AVS, please see the links below:

 - New Vision Standard Overview Webinar | FMCSA (dot.gov)
 - Vision Evaluation Report, Form MCSA-5871 | FMCSA (dot.gov)
 - Medical Examination Report (MER) Form, MCSA-5875
 - Medical Examiner's Certificate (MEC), Form MCSA-5876
11. Hear a whispered voice in the better ear at least five feet away with or without hearing aids, or, if tested by use of an audiometric device, does not have an average hearing loss in the better ear greater than 40 decibels at 500 Hz, 1,000 Hz, and 2,000 Hz with or without a hearing device when the audiometric device is calibrated to the American National Standard (formerly ASA Standard) Z24.5-1951.

12. Does not use:
 - Schedule I drug or any habit-forming drug.
 - Please note: Marijuana is considered a Schedule I drug. It is **not** permitted, even if prescribed. Marijuana Use
 - Any non-Scheduled I drug or substance, except when the use is prescribed by a licensed medical practitioner who is familiar with the driver's medical history.
13. Has no current clinical diagnosis of alcoholism.

Federal Medical Exemption (Variance)

Federal Exemption and Skills Performance Evaluation (SPE) Programs

If you operate or intend to operate a commercial motor vehicle for interstate commerce and do not meet the federal physical qualifications above, you may qualify for a federal exemption for hearing or seizure disorder or an SPE for loss or impairment of limbs (arms, hands, fingers, legs or feet).

For Federal Exemption information and Forms:

Visit the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) website at FMCSA.dot.gov --See link below:

Driver Exemptions | FMCSA (dot.gov)

For Federal Skills Performance Evaluation (SPE) Certificate information:

Visit the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) website at FMCSA.dot.gov -- See link below:

Skill Performance Evaluation Certificate Program | FMCSA (dot.gov)

You may also contact FMCSA by:

Email: FMCSAMedical@dot.gov

Phone: (202) 366-4001

Business Hours: 9:00am-5:00pm ET, M-F

Connecticut State Waiver Program

If you operate or intend to operate a commercial motor vehicle for intrastate commerce and do not meet the federal physical qualifications above, you may qualify for a state waiver with the following forms:

- Hearing Disorder
 - State Waiver Application (R-314)
 - Medical Examination Report (MER) Form, MCSA-5875
 - Medical Examiner's Certificate (MEC), Form MCSA-5876 | FMCSA (dot.gov)
- Seizure Disorder
 - State Waiver Application (R-314)
 - Letter from your physician indicating your diagnosis, the date of your last seizure (month/year), the anti-seizure medication(s) dosage and frequency, date of the last change in each anti-seizure medication, dosage, and frequency (month/year)
 - P-142SW
 - Medical Examiner's Certificate (MEC), Form MCSA-5876 | FMCSA (dot.gov)
- Skills Performance Evaluation (SPE) waiver for loss or impairment of limb(s)
 - State Waiver Application (R-314)
 - P-142SPE
 - Medical Examiner's Certificate (MEC), Form MCSA-5876 | FMCSA (dot.gov)

Please note: Hearing and Seizure Waivers do **not** qualify for a Public Passenger Endorsement Credential (PPEC).

You may also contact CT DMV Driver Services at:

Email: dmv.suspension@ct.gov

Phone: (860)263-5723

Business Hours: 8:00am-4:00pm ET, M-F

You may submit your application via email or mail to:

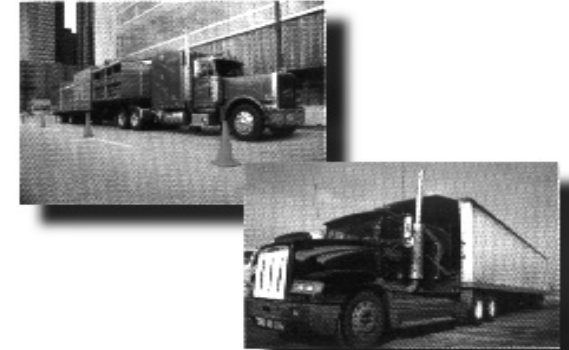
DMV

Attn: Driver Services/CDL

60 State Street, Wethersfield, CT 06161-1013

Please include your full name, date of birth and CT license number with all correspondence.

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Ned Lamont
Governor

Tony Guerrera
Commissioner

**State of Connecticut
Department of Motor Vehicles
60 State Street
Wethersfield, CT 06161**

ct.gov/dmv