

# Regulatory Update

January 12, 2021



U.S. Department of Transportation  
Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration



# Expansion and Extension of Modified Emergency Declaration

---

- Dates of Relief in Effect: December 1, 2020 - February 28, 2021
- Loads Covered by Declaration
  - Livestock and livestock feed
  - Medical supplies & equipment related to testing, diagnosis and treatment
  - Vaccines, constituent, and medical supplies and equipment including ancillary supplies/kits for the administration of vaccines, related to the prevention of COVID-19
  - Supplies & equipment necessary for community safety, sanitation, & prevention of community transmission of COVID-19 such as masks, gloves, hand sanitizer, soap, and disinfectants
  - Food, paper products & other groceries for emergency restocking of distribution centers or stores
- [www.fmcsa.dot.gov/COVID-19](http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/COVID-19)

# Clearinghouse Annual Queries

---

- Per 382.701, employers of CDL drivers must conduct a query of the Clearinghouse at least once per year for each CDL driver they employ. A limited query satisfies the annual query requirement.
- Employers meet this requirement if they have completed a query on all currently employed drivers by January 5, 2021.
- If an employer has hired a CDL driver since January 5, 2020 and conducted the pre-employment query, it will satisfy the annual query requirement. Not required to query that driver until one year after that pre-employment query.
- Annual queries are tracked on a rolling 12-month basis. Example: An employer that conducted a query on a CDL driver on February 1, 2020, would not be required to conduct another query on that driver until February 1, 2021.

# Hours of Service

---

- Information and Resources
  - Fact Sheets
  - Frequently Asked Questions
  - Webinars
  - [www.fmcsa.dot.gov/hos](http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/hos)
- Educational Tool for Hours of Service (ETHOS)
  - <https://eld.fmcsa.dot.gov/HOSRuleTool>
- Questions? Hours of Service email box
  - [hoursofservice@dot.gov](mailto:hoursofservice@dot.gov)

# Rulemaking Documents

| Title  | Action   | Dates   |
|--|--|---|
| <b>Qualifications of Drivers; Vision Standard</b><br>Part 391  | Notice of proposed rulemaking                                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Published 1/12/2021</li><li>• Comment by 3/15/2021</li></ul>  |
| <b>Revisions to Civil Penalty Amounts</b><br>Part 386          | Final rule   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Published 1/11/2021</li><li>• Effective 1/11/2021</li></ul>   |
| <b>Proposed Regulatory Guidance for Yard Moves</b><br>Part 395 | Notice of proposed regulatory guidance; request for comments | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Published 1/04/2021</li><li>• Comments by 2/03/2021</li></ul>   |
| <b>Rear Impact Guards and Protection</b><br>Parts 393, 399     | Notice of proposed rulemaking                                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Published 12/29/2020</li><li>• Effective 3/01/2021</li></ul>  |
| <b>Record of Violations</b><br>Parts 385, 391                  | Notice of proposed rulemaking                                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Published 12/14/2020</li><li>• Comment by 2/12/2021</li></ul>   |
| <b>HOS Definition of Agricultural Commodities</b><br>Part 395  | Interim final rule with request for comments                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Published 11/24/2020</li><li>• Effective 12/09/2020</li><li>• Comment Period Ended 12/24/2020</li></ul> |

# FMCSA Information and Contacts

---

- Emergency Declaration Help Line: 877-831-2250
- Portal Registration / Access Call Center: 800-724-2811
- Clearinghouse Help Line: 844-955-0207
- Safety Complaint Hotline: 888-368-7238
  
- FMCSA Information Line (*for all other calls than above*): 800-832-5600
  
- **FMCSA Tennessee Division Office: 615-781-5781**