

Frequently Asked Questions – Created 11/4/11

1. What is the definition of a political subdivision?

Political subdivision shall include villages, cities of all classes, counties, school districts, learning communities, public power districts, and all other units of local government, including entities created pursuant to the Interlocal Cooperation Act or Joint Public Agency Act.

SCHOOL BUS DRIVERS:

2. I am the driver of a school bus employed by a public school district. Do I fall under the definition of a political subdivision (i.e. driver works for Lincoln Public Schools, etc.)?

Yes. Therefore, you are only required to meet DMV medical and vision requirements for your Commercial Driver's License; Category B – Interstate – Excepted or Category D – Intrastate - Excepted.

DMV NOTE: Keep in mind that if you select Category D – you will have the “K – Intrastate Only” restriction on your CDL.

3. I am employed and drive a school bus for a private school (i.e. Lincoln Lutheran, etc.) – do I fall into the definition of a political subdivision?

No, but since you are a private motor carrier of passengers used for non-business purposes (churches, private schools, civic organizations, scout groups, etc.) you are required to meet DMV medical and vision requirements for your Commercial Driver's License; Category B – Interstate – Excepted or Category D – Intrastate - Excepted.

DMV NOTE: Keep in mind that if you select Category D – you will have the “K – Intrastate Only” restriction on your CDL.

4. I am employed as a school bus driver for a company that contracts with both a public school district and a private school (i.e. First Student, etc.) – do I have to meet the federal medical and vision requirements?

Yes, since you are NOT an employee directly of the public school district or the private school, you are required to meet federal medical and vision requirements. If you drive Interstate – you would fall into Category A – Interstate-Non-Excepted and would be required to furnish the DMV with a valid medical examiner's certificate (card – not long form) and keep it current with the DMV.

If you drive Intrastate – you would fall into Category C – Intrastate – Non - Excepted. Category C individuals have to meet federal medical and vision requirements, but do not have to provide the DMV with a current medical examiner's certificate.

5. Do applicants for a Nebraska school bus permit still need to renew their school bus permit annually and provide a DOT medical examination report (long form) to the DMV?

Yes, the requirements outlined in #3-5 above are in regard to the requirements for the Commercial Driver's License. The requirement for the DOT medical examination report (long form outlined in #6) has only to do with those individuals applying for a Nebraska school bus permit. So in other words, many school bus drivers will only have to meet DMV medical and vision requirements for their Commercial Driver's Licenses, but all drivers applying for a Nebraska school bus permit will have to renew and continue to meet federal medical and vision requirements and provide the DOT medical examination report (long form) to DMV staff annually.

FARM PLATED – INTRASTATE VEHICLES (within Nebraska):

6. What farm plated vehicle operators are excepted from meeting the federal medical and vision requirements and are only required to meet the DMV's medical and vision requirements?

See #8 and #9 below.

7. I drive a farm plated straight truck within 150 miles of my farm or ranch and do not cross state lines – do I need to obtain a CDL and self certify?

Since you operate a farm plated straight truck within 150 miles of your farm or ranch in intrastate commerce, you are not required to obtain a CDL or self certify. You can drive your vehicle with a Class O (car) license.

8. I drive a farm plated straight truck beyond 150 miles of my farm or ranch and do not cross state lines, do I need to obtain a CDL and self certify?

Yes, you need to obtain a CDL, but are only required to meet DMV medical and vision requirements. You would certify as Category D – Intrastate – Excepted.

9. I drive a farm plated tractor-trailer and do not cross state lines, do I need to obtain a CDL and self certify?

Yes, you need to obtain a CDL, but are only required to meet DMV medical and vision requirements. You would certify as Category D – Intrastate – Excepted.

FARM PLATED – INTERSTATE VEHICLES (outside Nebraska):

10. I drive a farm plated straight truck within 150 miles of my farm or ranch, but I do cross over into a bordering state – do I need to obtain a CDL and what category do I mark?

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Nebraska has reciprocity agreements for farm plated straight truck operation with the States of Kansas, South Dakota, Missouri and Iowa. If you operate your farm plated straight truck into one of those States, and stay within 150 miles of your farm or ranch, you do not need to obtain a CDL or self certify.

If you plan on operating your farm plated straight truck within 150 miles of your farm or ranch in the States of Colorado or Wyoming, please check with those States before travelling in those States without a CDL. They may require you to obtain a CDL to operate your farm plated straight truck in their States. In that instance, you are only required to meet DMV medical and vision requirements and would fall into Category B – Interstate - Excepted. The Carrier Enforcement Division of the Nebraska State Patrol is attempting to work with both Colorado and Wyoming to get reciprocity agreements in place.

11. I drive a farm plated straight truck across state lines beyond 150 miles of my farm or ranch, do I need to obtain a CDL and what category do I fall into?

If you are operating your farm plated straight truck across state lines beyond 150 miles of your farm or ranch, you are required to obtain a CDL and meet the federal medical and vision requirements. You would mark Category A-Interstate-Non-Excepted and would be required to provide a medical examiner's certificate (card – not long form) to the DMV and keep it updated with the DMV.

12. I drive a farm plated tractor-trailer across state lines, which category do I fall into?

You would fall into Category A – Interstate – Non- Excepted and would be required to provide a medical examiner's certificate (card – not long form) to the DMV and keep it updated with the DMV.

GENERAL INFORMATION:

13. I want to retain my Commercial Driver's License, but I am not currently driving. What category should I mark?

The decision is yours, but the information below may help you make your decision.

If you mark Category A – Interstate- Non- Excepted, you will be required to provide a current medical examiner's certificate (card – not long form) to the DMV and keep it current with the DMV.

If you mark Category B – Interstate- Excepted, you will not be required to provide any medical/vision documentation to the DMV nor will you have any restrictions placed on your CDL.

If you mark Category C – Intrastate – Non - Excepted or Category D – Intrastate – Excepted, you will have the "K – Intrastate Only" restriction placed on your CDL.

14. How do I certify if I fall into more than one category?

If you fall into more than one category and one of the categories is A – Interstate- Non - Excepted, always mark Category A – Interstate – Non - Excepted and provide a current medical examiner's certificate (card – not long form) to the DMV and keep it current with the DMV.

15. What happens if I mark Category A – Interstate – Non - Excepted and do not keep my medical examiner's certificate (card – not long form) current with the DMV?

Your CDL will be subject to downgrade and cancellation. If you fall into Category A – Interstate – Non - Excepted, it is YOUR responsibility to keep your medical examiner's certificate updated with the DMV at all times.

16. Why are some of the same excepted categories (#1-4) on the interstate side of the CDL Self Certification Categories chart also on the intrastate side (#3-6) and what category should I mark (Category B – Interstate – Excepted or Category D – Intrastate – Excepted)?

The excepted categories on the interstate side of the chart are excepted from the federal medical requirements by federal statutes and the ones on the right side of the chart are excepted from the federal medical and vision requirements by state statutes. You will need to decide which category to mark.

DMV Note: Keep in mind that if you select Category D – you will have the "K – Intrastate Only" restriction on your CDL. If you then decide you want to travel across state lines, you will be required to visit any driver licensing office, recertify and have the K removed from your CDL; there is a charge for this.

Please refer to the Nebraska DMV website at: www.dmv.ne.gov for additional information regarding these CDL requirements. Our webpage will have the most updated information on it regarding these requirements.

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