

U.S. Department of Transportation Safety Regulation Compliance

Many truck and bus operations are subject to some or all of the U.S. Department of Transportation Safety Regulations. Listed below are the three principal regulatory areas and the types of truck and bus operations covered by each. The list provides only a summary of these three regulatory areas. For more detailed information, the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (Title 49, Parts 200-399) should be consulted. The regulations can be ordered from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402 (phone 202-783-3238).

1. The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (FMCSRs) apply to your operation(s) if you operate a commercial motor vehicle to transport property or passengers in interstate commerce.
Exception: The FMCSRs do not apply to the private transportation of passengers, but only to the “for-hire” transportation of passengers.
2. The Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMRs) apply to your operation(s) if you operate a motor vehicle of any size to:
 - a. transport a hazardous material in Interstate Commerce, or
 - b. transport, wholly within one state or in Interstate Commerce, the following:
 - (1) a hazardous waste or hazardous substance, whether in bulk or not, or
 - (2) a flammable cryogenic liquid in bulk.
3. The Minimum Financial Responsibility (Insurance) Requirements apply to your operation(s) if:
 - a. you are a “for-hire” motor carrier of property or passengers in Interstate Commerce, or
 - b. you operate a motor vehicle to transport any quantity of a hazardous material in Interstate Commerce, or
 - c. you operate a motor vehicle to transport a hazardous material in bulk wholly within one state or in Interstate Commerce.

Exception: The Minimum Financial Responsibility (Insurance) Requirements do not apply to trucks with a gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) under 10,000 pounds (unless transporting Class A or B explosives, poison gas, or highway route-controlled radioactive materials), school buses, taxicabs, or van pools.

Many truck and bus operations are subject to some or all of the U.S. Department of Transportation Safety Regulations.

Definitions and References

1. The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (FMCSRs) are found in 49 CFR Parts 350-399.
2. A “commercial motor vehicle” is:
 - a. a truck with a GVWR over 10,000 pounds, or
 - b. a truck of any GVWR that is used to transport a hazardous material in a quantity requiring placarding, or
 - c. a bus designed to transport more than 15 persons, including the driver.
3. “Interstate Commerce” means across state lines, including International boundaries, or wholly within one state as part of a through movement that originates or terminates in another state or country.
4. A “for-hire motor carrier” is a transporter of property or passengers by motor vehicle for compensation and is more specifically defined in 49 CFR Sections 387.5 (property) and 387.29 (passengers).
5. The Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMRs) are found in 49 CFR Parts 171-179.
6. “Hazardous materials” and “hazardous wastes” are listed in the Hazardous Materials Table in 49 CFR Section 172.101. “Hazardous substances” are listed in an appendix to that Table.
7. A “Cryogenic liquid” is a refrigerated liquefied gas having a boiling point colder than – 130oF (–90oC) at one atmosphere, absolute (49 CFR Section 173.300 (f)).
8. “In bulk” is defined as the transportation of any property in a portable or cargo tank with a capacity in excess of 3,500 gallons.

Exception: Transportation of any quantity of Class A and B explosives or poison gases is defined as “in bulk” (49 CFR Section 387.5).
9. The Minimum Levels of Financial Responsibility (Insurance) Requirements are part of the FMCSRs and are found in 49 CFR Part 387. They state, in part, that proof of the required financial responsibility (insurance) shall be maintained at the motor carrier’s principal place of business, usually on a Form MCS-90 (property) or MCS-90B (passengers), issued by an insurer, although there are other acceptable forms of proof as explained in full in the regulation. Foreign carriers are required to maintain a copy of the MCS-90 on board the vehicle when operating in the United States.

For further information, contact the Office of Motor Carrier Safety in the Federal Highway Administration office in your state.

Alabama	Montgomery	(205) 832-7244	New Jersey	Trenton	(609) 989-2276
Alaska	Anchorage	(907) 271-4068	New Mexico	Albuquerque	(505) 764-6789
Arizona	Phoenix	(602) 261-3646	New York	Albany	(518) 472-6483
Arkansas	Little Rock	(501) 387-5050		Buffalo	(716) 846-4701
California	El Monte	(818) 405-7110		New York	(212) 264-1070
	Sacramento	(916) 551-1300		Syracuse	(315) 423-5464
		or	North Carolina	Raleigh	(919) 856-4378
		(916) 551-1014	North Dakota	Bismarck	(701) 250-4011
Colorado	Lakewood	(303) 236-3388 ext. 346			
Connecticut	Hartford	(203) 240-3708	Ohio	Columbus	(614) 469-5657
Delaware	Dover	(302) 734-5323	Oklahoma	Oklahoma City	(405) 231-4607
District of Columbia	Washington	(202) 366-6813	Oregon	Salem	(503) 399-5775
Florida	Jacksonville	(904) 791-3358	Pennsylvania	Harrisburg	(717) 782-4443
	Tallahassee	(904) 681-7190		Philadelphia	(215) 597-7604
Georgia	Atlanta	(404) 347-4966		Pittsburgh	(412) 644-2935
Hawaii	Honolulu	(808) 546-5152		Scranton	(717) 346-4949
Idaho	Boise	(208) 334-1843	Puerto Rico	Hato Rey	(809) 766-5958
Illinois	Homewood	(312) 799-6300	Rhode Island	Providence	(401) 528-4578
		ext. 174	South Carolina	Columbia	(803) 765-5414
	Springfield	(217) 492-4642	South Dakota	Pierre	(605) 224-8202
Indiana	Indianapolis	(317) 269-7474	Tennessee	Jackson	(901) 427-5148
Iowa	Ames	(515) 233-1775		Nashville	(615) 736-5951
Kansas	Topeka	(913) 295-2555		Sevierville	(615) 453-7123
Kentucky	Frankfort	(502) 227-7321	Texas	Austin	(512) 482-5474
Louisiana	Baton Rouge	(504) 389-0390		Dallas	(214) 767-0471
Maine	Augusta	(207) 622-8385		Houston	(713) 750-1678
Maryland	Baltimore	(301) 962-2889		Lubbock	(806) 743-7664
Massachusetts	Cambridge	(617) 494-2770		San Antonio	(512) 229-5616
Michigan	Lansing	(517) 377-1866	Utah	Salt Lake City	(801) 524-5154
Minnesota	St. Paul	(612) 290-3250	Vermont	Montpelier	(802) 828-4480
Mississippi	Jackson	(601) 965-4219	Virginia	Richmond	(804) 771-2386
Missouri	Jefferson City	(314) 636-3246		Roanoke	(703) 982-6357
Montana	Helena	(406) 449-5224	Washington	Olympia	(206) 753-9875
Nebraska	Lincoln	(402) 437-5521	West Virginia	Charleston	(304) 347-5935
Nevada	Carson City	(702) 784-5681	Wisconsin	Madison	(608) 264-5215
New Hampshire	Concord	(603) 225-1626	Wyoming	Cheyenne	(307) 772-2305

The loss prevention information and advice presented in this brochure are intended only to advise our insureds and their managers of a variety of methods and strategies based on generally accepted safe practices, for controlling potentially loss producing situations commonly occurring in business premises and/or operations. They are not intended to warrant that all potential hazards or conditions have been evaluated or can be controlled. They are not intended as an offer to write insurance coverage for such conditions or exposures, or to simply that Great American Insurance Company will write such coverage. The liability of Great American Insurance Company is limited to the specific terms, limits and conditions of the insurance policies issued.
301 E. Fourth Street, Cincinnati, OH 45202 F13584-LP (12/12)

