



Inspection Bulletin

North American Standard Inspection Program

2020-02 – Roadside Examination of Drug and Alcohol Clearinghouse Status

*Created: Feb. 2, 2020
Revised: April 29, 2021
Revised: Sept. 2, 2021
Revised: Sept. 25, 2025*

Summary

This Inspection Bulletin provides directions to enforcement personnel on verifying a driver's status based on data from the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's (FMCSA) Commercial Driver's License Drug and Alcohol Clearinghouse. This bulletin is for enforcement personnel who stop drivers with a commercial driver's license (CDL) or a commercial learner's permit (CLP) for a driver/vehicle examination (roadside inspection). It only applies to CDL or CLP holders. This applies to CDL or CLP holders in a commercial motor vehicle (CMV) as defined in Title 49 Code of Federal Regulation (CFR) Part 390.5 and former CDL and CLP holders operating commercial motor vehicles requiring a CDL under 49 CFR Part 383.

Background

On Dec. 5, 2016, FMCSA published its Commercial Driver's License Drug and Alcohol Clearinghouse final rule. As of Jan. 6, 2020, employers, or their designated representatives, and medical review officers, are required to report information about drug and alcohol program violations to the clearinghouse. Drivers with a drug or alcohol program violation are not permitted to perform safety-sensitive functions, including driving a CMV, until they have successfully completed the substance abuse professional (SAP) evaluation, referral and education treatment process set forth in 49 CFR Part 40, Subpart O, and have a negative return-to-duty test.

Enforcement personnel will verify a driver's status based on the clearinghouse data in either Query Central (QC) or Commercial Driver's License Information System (CDLIS) gateway. CDL status queries that do not go through CDLIS will not identify drivers (including U.S.-licensed drivers) prohibited from operating in the U.S. based upon drug and alcohol violation data reported to the clearinghouse. Law enforcement officials who do not currently have an active account on CDLIS may utilize FMCSA's Query Central system to determine if a driver is prohibited from operating a CMV due to drug and alcohol program violations.

Use of any other data systems to query the operating status of a CDL or CLP holder will not identify whether the driver is prohibited from operating a CMV due to drug and alcohol program violations. Safety gaps may exist if status queries for commercial drivers are not conducted through Query Central or CDLIS gateway.

Inspection Guidance

A driver found to be operating in a prohibited status should be cited for a violation of 49 CFR Part 392.15 – Prohibited from performing safety-sensitive functions per 382.501(a) in the Drug and Alcohol Clearinghouse. This violation is an out-of-service condition in the CVSA North American Standard Out-of-Service Criteria and the driver will be placed out of service if found in a prohibited status.

Enforcement personnel may access QC at the driver level. Enter the driver's CDL information. QC will check the driver's eligibility status and return the results in the box on the upper right. See screen on next page.

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

DRIVER SUMMARY

Driver, Vehicle, Carrier: [Redacted] Help, Home, Feedback

Driver Identification		License Summary	
Driver Name:	[Redacted]	Commercial Status:	Licensed Class: A
Address:	[Redacted]	Non-Commercial Status:	Licensed Class: D
CDL#:	[Redacted]	Expires:	6/18/2026
SSN:	[Redacted]	Restrictions:	Corrective Lenses must be worn
St/Prov:	IN	Endorsements:	No Endorsements Listed
DOB:	[Redacted]	Drug and Alcohol Clearinghouse Status:	Driver is prohibited from operating under 49 CFR § 382.501(a)

Aliases						
First Name	Middle Name	Last Name	SUFFIX	Birth Date	License	State
						GA
						IN

Medical Certification							
Issue Date	Expiration Date	SPE Issue	SPE Expiration	Med WE Issue	Med WE Expiration	Status Code	Self Certification
10/28/2018	10/28/2019					Certified	Non-exempted Interstate

Medical Certificate Restrictions	
Restriction	
Corrective Lenses	

Alternatively, enforcement personnel may access the Commercial Driver's License Information System (CDLIS) gateway. (cdlis.dot.gov) at the driver level. Enter the driver's CDL information. The results will reflect the driver's eligibility status under the Status Search Results header. See screen below.

CDLIS.DOT.GOV

Hello, barbara.baker@dot.gov your password will expire in 21 days! [Set Query Default](#) [Log off](#)

[Home](#) [Contact](#)

Attention: Due to the COVID – 19 emergency, FMCSA has issued guidance that FMCSA will not take enforcement action against a CLP/CDL holder or a non-CDL driver operating a CMV with an expired CLP/CDL or driver's license through May 31, 2021, or with an expired medical certificate meeting the following criteria: If the MEC expired on or after December 1, 2020, the MEC remains valid until May 31, 2021. To view the complete FMCSA Waiver and Enforcement Guidance, click on the following links: www.fmcsa.dot.gov/COVID-19

Status Search Results

DRUG AND ALCOHOL CLEARINGHOUSE - DRIVER IS PROHIBITED FROM OPERATING UNDER 382.501(A)

/WA/[Redacted]

Driver General Information

First Name	Middle Name	Last Name	Suff
[Redacted]		[Redacted]	

SSN	Birth Date	Height	Weight	Eye Color
[Redacted]	[Redacted]	604	220	BROWN

Residence

Street	City	County	State	Zip
[Redacted]			WA	985859708

Mailing Address

Street	City	County	State	Zip

Status Search Results

DRUG AND ALCOHOL CLEARINGHOUSE - DRIVER IS PROHIBITED FROM OPERATING UNDER 382.501(A)

For further information, contact FMCSA at clearinghouse@dot.gov.