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Military CDL Skills Test Waiver Forms



In May, 2011, the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration finalized the Commercial Learner's Permit rule. Within that rule is a provision that gives State Driver Licensing Agencies (SDLA) the authority to substitute two years of CMV safe driving experience in military equivalents of commercial motor vehicles, for the skills test portion of the commercial driver license skills test.

The regulation, 49 CFR 383.77, provides guidance for SDLAs which requires the applicant to certify: 1) his/ her safe driving experience; 2) that he or she has not held more than one license (except a military DL) in the past two years; 3) has not had his/her base State issued driver license suspended, revoked or cancelled; and, 3) has not had convictions in any type of motor vehicle for the disqualifying CDL offenses listed elsewhere in the regulations. There are also other requirements that States must recognize in order to take advantage of this Skills Test Waiver, but the process allows States to assist veterans and active duty personnel in their transition from their military occupation to a civilian career. As more and more of our military troops return home from active duty, the Department of Transportation and FMCSA have joined with the Departments of Defense, Labor and Veterans Affairs to ease this process.

FMCSA, in collaboration with the US Army, Department of Defense and the American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators, has generated a standardized *Application for Military Skills Test Waiver form*. This document addresses all of the issues captured in the new regulation including which violations can deny the waiver; identifying the specific type(s) of vehicle which the service member was licensed to drive; and, an endorsement by the service member's commanding officer of the safe driving record. For a list of the States which currently offer the skills test waiver for military drivers [see the map.](#)"

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Application for Military Skills Test Waiver form
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Substitute for driving skills tests.

Regulations current to Aug 30, 2012

Search for
Examples: Medical Form. 391.53, 391

- All Regulations
- Part 383

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Subpart E - Testing and licensing procedures

§ 383.77 Substitute for driving skills tests for drivers with military CMV experience.

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At the discretion of a State, the driving skills test as specified in §383.113 may be waived for a CMV driver with military CMV experience who is currently licensed at the time of his/her application for a CDL, and substituted with an applicant's driving record in combination with certain driving experience. The State shall impose conditions and limitations to restrict the applicants from whom a State may accept alternative requirements for the skills test described in §383.113. Such conditions must require at least the following:

- (a) An applicant must certify that, during the two-year period immediately prior to applying for a CDL, he/she
 - (1) Has not had more than one license (except for a military license),
 - (2) Has not had any license suspended, revoked, or cancelled,
 - (3) Has not had any convictions for any type of motor vehicle for the disqualifying offenses contained in §383.51(b),
 - (4) Has not had more than one conviction for any type of motor vehicle for serious traffic violations contained in §383.51(c), and
 - (5) Has not had had any conviction for a violation of military, State or local law relating to motor vehicle traffic control (other than a parking violation) arising in connection with any traffic accident, and has no record of an accident in which he/she was at fault, and
- (b) An applicant must provide evidence and certify that he/she
 - (1) Is regularly employed or was regularly employed within the last 90 days in a military position requiring operation of a CMV,
 - (2) Was exempted from the CDL requirements in §383.3(c); and
 - (3) Was operating a vehicle representative of the CMV the driver applicant operates or expects to operate, for at least the 2 years immediately preceding discharge from the military

[76 FR 26887, May 9, 2011]

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Required skills.

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- ▲ All Regulations
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Subpart G - Required knowledge and skills

§ 383.113 Required skills.

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(a) **Pre-trip vehicle inspection skills.** Applicants for a CDL must possess the following basic pre-trip vehicle inspection skills for the vehicle class that the driver operates or expects to operate

(1) **All test vehicles.** Applicants must be able to identify each safety-related part on the vehicle and explain what needs to be inspected to ensure a safe operating condition of each part, including:

- (i) Engine compartment;
- (ii) Cab/engine start;
- (iii) Steering;
- (iv) Suspension;
- (v) Brakes;
- (vi) Wheels;
- (vii) Side of vehicle;
- (viii) Rear of vehicle; and
- (ix) Special features of tractor trailer, school bus, or coach/transit bus, if this type of vehicle is being used for the test.

(2) **Air brake equipped test vehicles.** Applicants must demonstrate the following skills with respect to inspection and operation of air brakes

- (i) Locate and verbally identify air brake operating controls and monitoring devices;
- (ii) Determine the motor vehicle's brake system condition for proper adjustments and that air system connections between motor vehicles have been properly made and secured;
- (iii) Inspect the low pressure warning device(s) to ensure that they will activate in emergency situations;
- (iv) With the engine running, make sure that the system maintains an adequate supply of compressed air;
- (v) Determine that required minimum air pressure build up time is within acceptable limits and that required alarms and emergency devices automatically deactivate at the proper pressure level; and
- (vi) Operationally check the brake system for proper performance.

(b) **Basic vehicle control skills.** All applicants for a CDL must possess and demonstrate the following basic motor vehicle control skills for the vehicle class that the driver operates or expects to operate:

- (1) Ability to start, warm up, and shut down the engine;
- (2) Ability to put the motor vehicle in motion and accelerate smoothly, forward and backward;
- (3) Ability to bring the motor vehicle to a smooth stop;
- (4) Ability to back the motor vehicle in a straight line, and check path and clearance while backing;
- (5) Ability to position the motor vehicle to negotiate safely and then make left and right turns;
- (6) Ability to shift as required and select appropriate gear for speed and highway conditions; and
- (7) Ability to back along a curved path.

(c) **Safe on-road driving skills.** All applicants for a CDL must possess and demonstrate the following safe on-road driving skills for their vehicle class:

- (1) Ability to use proper visual search methods;
- (2) Ability to signal appropriately when changing direction in traffic;
- (3) Ability to adjust speed to the configuration and condition of the roadway, weather and visibility conditions, traffic conditions, and motor vehicle, cargo and driver conditions;
- (4) Ability to choose a safe gap for changing lanes, passing other vehicles, as well as for crossing or entering traffic;
- (5) Ability to position the motor vehicle correctly before and during a turn to prevent other vehicles from passing on the wrong side, as well as to prevent problems caused by off-tracking;
- (6) Ability to maintain a safe following distance depending on the condition of the road, visibility, and vehicle weight;

- (7) Ability to adjust operation of the motor vehicle to prevailing weather conditions including speed selection, braking, direction changes, and following distance to maintain control, and
 - (8) Ability to observe the road and the behavior of other motor vehicles, particularly before changing speed and direction
 - (d) *Test area*. Skills tests shall be conducted in on-street conditions or under a combination of on-street and off-street conditions.
 - (e) *Simulation technology*. A State may utilize simulators to perform skills testing, but under no circumstances as a substitute for the required testing in on-street conditions
- [76 FR 26889, May 9, 2011]

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APPLICATION FOR MILITARY SKILLS TEST WAIVER

The Commercial Driver License (CDL) skills test waiver form may be used by service members who are currently licensed and who are or were employed within the last 90 days in a military position requiring the operation of a military motor vehicle equivalent to a Commercial Motor Vehicle (CMV). This waiver allows a qualified service member to apply for a CDL without skills testing. CDL knowledge (written) test(s) cannot be waived. **The transfer of School Bus(S) and/or Passenger (P) endorsements under this Waiver Program are prohibited.**

APPLICANT INFORMATION

NAME (Last, First, Middle)		STATE /DRIVER LICENSE NUMBER (required)		APPLICATION DATE	
RESIDENCE ADDRESS (STREET)	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE	COUNTY	
MAILING ADDRESS (IF DIFFERENT)	CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE	COUNTY	

DRIVER RECORD CERTIFICATION

During the 2-year period immediately preceding this date:

- Have you had more than one license (except for a military license)? YES NO
- Has your license been suspended, revoked, cancelled or disqualified in this or any state? YES NO

Have you been convicted of any violations described below in any type of motor vehicle?

- Being under the influence of alcohol as prescribed by state law YES NO
- Being under the influence of a controlled substance YES NO
- Having an alcohol concentration of 0.04 or greater while operating a CMV YES NO
- Refusing to take an alcohol test as required by a State jurisdiction under its implied consent laws or regulations as defined in 49 CFR 383.72 YES NO
- Leaving the scene of an accident YES NO
- Using the vehicle to commit a felony (other than manufacturing, distributing or dispensing a controlled substance) YES NO
- Driving a CMV while your CDL is revoked, suspended, cancelled; or you are disqualified from operating a CMV YES NO
- Causing a fatality through the negligent operation of a CMV (including motor vehicle manslaughter, homicide by motor vehicle, or negligent homicide) YES NO
- Using the vehicle in the commission of a felony involving manufacturing, distributing, or dispensing a controlled substance YES NO

Have you had more than one conviction for any of the violations described below in any type of motor vehicle?

- Speeding in excess of 15 mph or more above the posted speed limit YES NO
- Driving recklessly, as defined by State or local law or regulation (including offenses of driving a motor vehicle in willful or wanton disregard for the safety of persons or property) YES NO
- Making improper or erratic lane changes YES NO
- Following the vehicle ahead too closely YES NO
- Violating State or local law relating to motor vehicle traffic control (other than a parking violation) arising in connection with a fatal accident YES NO
- Driving a CMV without obtaining a CDL YES NO
- Driving a CMV without a CDL in the driver's possession YES NO
- Driving a CMV without the proper class of CDL and/or endorsements for a specific vehicle group being operated or for the passengers or type of cargo being transported YES NO
- Violating a State or local law or ordinance on motor vehicle traffic control prohibiting texting while driving YES NO
- Violating a State or local law or ordinance on motor vehicle traffic control restricting or prohibiting the use of a hand held mobile telephone while driving YES NO

Have you had any conviction for a violation of military, state or local law relating to motor vehicle traffic control (other than parking violation) arising in connection with any traffic accident and have no record of an accident in which you were at fault? YES NO

CERTIFICATION OF DRIVING EXPERIENCE

- Have you been regularly employed or were you regularly employed within the last 90 days in a military position requiring the operation of a military motor vehicle that was representative of a commercial motor vehicle (CMV)?..... YES NO
- Were you exempted from the CDL licensing requirements for driving a military vehicle on state roads and highways in accordance with 49 CFR §383.3 (c)? YES NO
- Have you operated a military motor vehicle representative of the commercial motor vehicle (CMV) that you operate or expect to operate, for at least the 2 years immediately preceding discharge from the military? YES NO

I certify under penalty of perjury that the information on this form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE	DATE
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COMMANDING OFFICER'S CERTIFICATION OF COMMERCIAL DRIVING EXPERIENCE			
COMMANDING OFFICER'S NAME (LAST, FIRST, MIDDLE)			TELEPHONE NUMBER
STREET ADDRESS			
CITY	STATE	ZIP CODE	COUNTY
SERVICE MEMBER'S DATE OF QUALIFICATION: FROM		TO	
SERVICE MEMBER'S NAME			EXPIRATION DATE (US Gov't Motor Vehicle Operator Identification Card / License)

Circle the highest class of vehicles the service member has been driving:

Class	Vehicle Description	EXAMPLE OF VEHICLES IN GROUP
A	<p>* 5th WHEEL - Truck Tractor/Semitrailer</p> <p>Any combination of vehicles with a GCWR of 26,001 or more pounds provided the GVWR of the vehicle(s) being towed is in excess of 10,000 pounds.</p>	
A	<p>* PINTLE HOOK - Truck Trailer Combination</p> <p>Any combination of vehicles with a GCWR of 26,001 or more pounds provided the GVWR of the vehicle(s) being towed is in excess of 10,000 pounds.</p>	
B	<p>Any single vehicle with a GVWR of 26,001 or more pounds or any such vehicle towing a vehicle not in excess of 10,000 pounds GVWR.</p>	

The vehicle the service member operates is equipped with a full air brake system: YES NO

The vehicle the service member operates is equipped with an air-over-hydraulic braking system: YES NO

The transmission in the vehicle the service member operates is: AUTOMATIC MANUAL

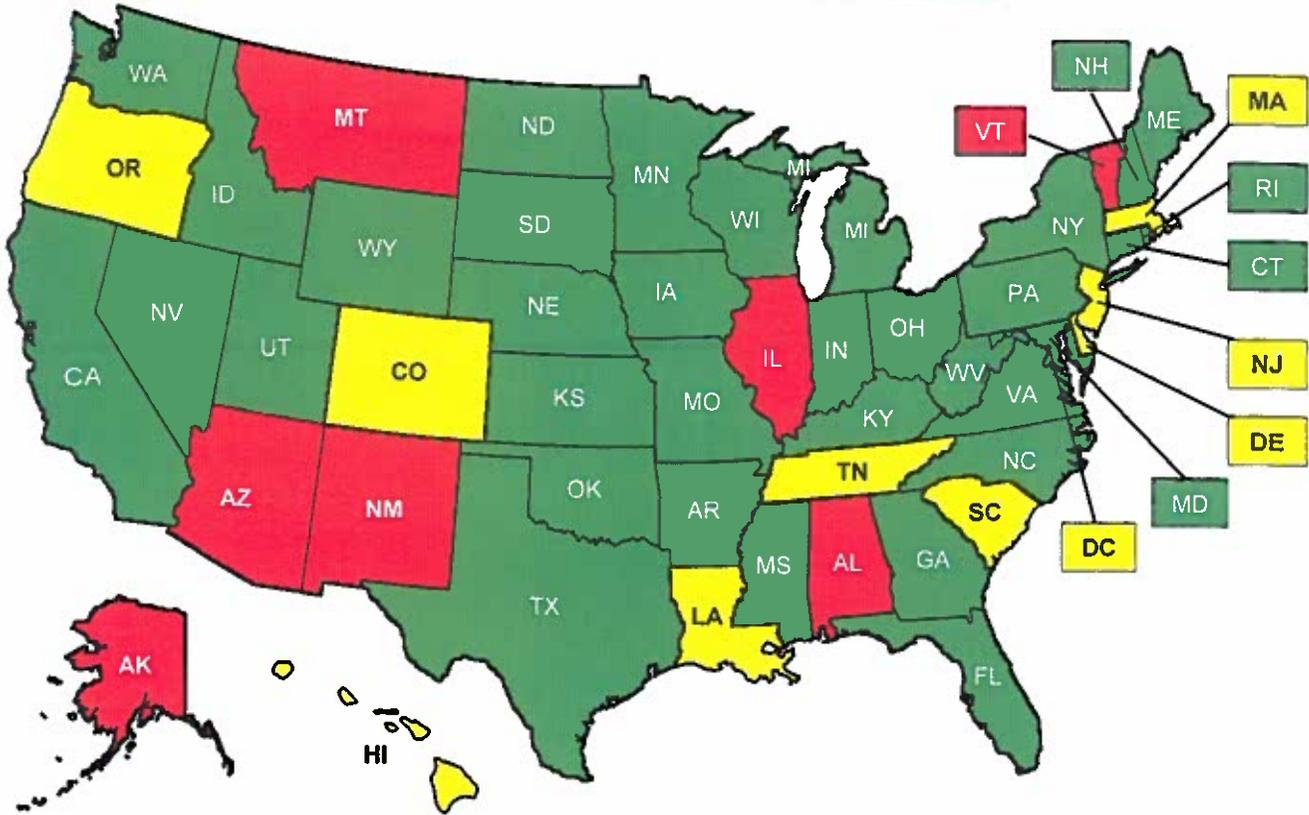
I certify that the service member named on the front of this document is/was assigned in a job/assignment requiring the operation of a commercial motor vehicle, the service member's driving experience has been verified; and the information provided herein is true and correct to my knowledge, information and belief. I also certify that I am an officer of the Armed Forces with the authority to administer oaths; and who has the general powers of a notary public.

PRINT COMMANDING OFFICER'S NAME/RANK	DATE
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SIGNATURE	DATE
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Authority of Article 136, Uniform Code of Military Justice or 10 U.S.C. 1044A

Military Skills Test Waiver Current Status



LEGEND	States with Military Skills Test Waiver	34
	States working on the process	10
	States that do not currently accept a Military Skills Test Waiver	7

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- Connecticut
- Florida
- Georgia
- Idaho
- Indiana
- Iowa
- Kansas
- Kentucky
- Maine
- Maryland
- Michigan
- Minnesota
- Mississippi
- Missouri
- Nebraska
- Nevada
- New Hampshire
- New York
- North Carolina
- North Dakota
- Ohio
- Oklahoma
- Pennsylvania
- Rhode Island
- South Dakota
- Texas
- Utah
- Virginia
- Washington
- West Virginia
- Wisconsin
- Wyoming

- Colorado
- Delaware
- District of Columbia
- Hawaii
- Louisiana
- Massachusetts
- New Jersey
- New York
- Oregon
- South Carolina
- Tennessee

- Alabama
- Alaska
- Arizona
- Illinois
- Montana
- New Mexico
- Vermont