

COMMERCIAL DRIVERS MUST SOON CERTIFY TYPE OF DRIVING, PROVIDE MEDICAL CERTIFICATION INFORMATION

RALEIGH — Between January 30, 2012 and January 30, 2014, the N.C. Division of Motor Vehicles will ask its 320,000 licensed commercial drivers to certify the type of driving they do. Some will also be asked to provide current medical certification information.

With the new requirements by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), DMVs across the nation will begin collecting and maintaining medical certification information from commercial drivers when they apply for an initial or renewal license, or when they transfer a commercial driver license (CDL) from another state. NCDMV began notifying the state's commercial drivers about the upcoming requirements by letter this week.

All North Carolina CDL holders must certify the type of driving they perform, outlining whether they drive interstate or intrastate, and whether they fall under exceptions to the requirement for a medical certificate.

For certain commercial drivers, current medical certification information will also be collected, including any applicable FMCSA waiver and skills performance evaluation. Some drivers are exempt from the medical certification requirement.

Most CDL drivers are expected to submit the federally-required information during the usual license renewal process. However, drivers whose licenses were issued before January 30, 2012 and expire after January 29, 2014 will receive a notification letter requesting the necessary information.

NCDMV will also send reminder letters to drivers 30 days prior to the expiration of their medical certificates, FMCSA waivers (variances) and NCDMV waivers.

Drivers with questions about the upcoming requirements should call (919) 861-3599.