



Idealease Safety Bulletin

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FMCSA ISSUES FINAL RULE ON MEDICAL EXAMINER CERTIFICATION

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration has published a final rule to establish a National Registry of Certified Medical Examiners. [77 Federal Register 24104](#) (April 20, 2012). Compliance with the new requirements is allowed after May 21, 2012, but becomes mandatory two years later, on May 21, 2014.



Under the new rule, all medical examiners who conduct physical examinations for interstate commercial motor vehicle drivers meet the following criteria:

- complete certain training concerning FMCSA's physical qualification standards;
- pass a test to verify an understanding of those standards; and,
- maintain and demonstrate competence through periodic training and testing.

After May 21, 2014, a motor carrier may not use a CMV driver unless the driver has a medical certificate issued by an ME on the National Registry of Certified Medical Examiners.

Until now, there was no required training program for the medical professionals who conduct driver physical examinations, although the regulations required medical examiners to be "knowledgeable" about the regulations. Any medical professional licensed by his or her State to conduct physical examinations could conduct driver medical certification exams; no specific knowledge of the FMCSA's physical qualification standards was required or verified by testing.

UPCOMING EVENT

Roadcheck 2012
June 5-7, 2012

Employers will continue to have the option to require their drivers to be examined by an ME selected and/or compensated by the employer. The new rule adds a requirement that the employer must verify that the driver was issued a medical certificate by an ME on the National Registry and place a note to that effect in the driver qualification file. But there is no ongoing obligation for the employer to ensure that an ME who has issued a medical certificate for a driver has not later been involuntarily removed from the National Registry.

The FMCSA has also published a list of [FAQs](#) regarding the NRCME requirements.

May is Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month



Motorist awareness is an important component of the National Highway Traffic Safety!

Administration's comprehensive motorcycle safety program. Over two-thirds of fatal motorcycle crashes involve a motorcycle and another vehicle. The motorist either does not see the oncoming motorcycle at all or does not see the motorcycle in time to avoid a crash. It is important for motorists to know that their actions affect the safety of motorcyclists. A motorist and a motorcyclist may take

different actions for the same driving or highway situation. For example, a motorist may ignore a piece of road debris; however, that same piece of road debris may be deadly for a motorcyclist. As a motorist or a passenger, there are some steps to become more aware of motorcyclists.

Respect the motorcyclist:

Remember the motorcycle is a vehicle with all of the privileges of any vehicle on the roadway. Give the motorcyclist a full lane of travel.

Look out:

Look for the motorcyclist on the highway, at intersections, when a motorcyclist may be making a left turn and when a motorcyclist may be changing lanes. Clearly signal your intentions.



Anticipate a motorcyclist's maneuver:

Obstructions (debris, potholes, etc.) that you may ignore or not notice can be deadly for a motorcyclist. Predict evasive actions.

Allow plenty of space:

Don't follow a motorcycle too closely. Allow enough room for the motorcyclist to take evasive actions.



2012 Idealease/NPTC Safety Seminars!

Upcoming seminars for 2012:

- May 2- Detroit, MI
- May 2- Charlotte
- May 3 Bristol, IN
- May 3- Bristol, IN
- May 8- Grand Junction, CO
- May 10- Denver, CO
- May 23- Kelowna, BC

To register for a seminar click on:

www.Idealease.com/safety

NEW FOR 2012 SEMINARS!!!!

This year during the seminar you will receive Drug and Alcohol Supervisor Training. This training meets the requirements of FMCSA CFR 382.603 that requires all supervisors of commercial motor vehicle drivers to have the training for reasonable suspicion drug and alcohol testing.