

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, DOT

§ 381.110

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Subpart A—General

§ 381.100 What is the purpose of this part?

This part prescribes the rules and procedures for requesting waivers and applying for exemptions from those provisions of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (FMCSRs) which were issued on the authority of 49 U.S.C. 31136 or chapter 313, and the initiation and administration of pilot programs.

§ 381.105 Who is required to comply with the rules in this part?

(a) You must comply with the rules in this part if you are going to request a waiver or apply for an exemption.

(b) You should follow the instructions in subpart D of this part if you would like to recommend the agency initiate a pilot program.

§ 381.110 What definitions are applicable to this part?

Commercial motor vehicle means any motor vehicle that meets the definition of “commercial motor vehicle” found at 49 CFR 382.107 concerning controlled substances and alcohol use and testing, 49 CFR 383.5 concerning commercial driver’s license standards, or 49 CFR 390.5 concerning parts 390 through 399 of the FMCSRs.

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administrator (the Administrator) means the chief executive of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, an agency within the Department of Transportation.

FMCSRs means Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (49 CFR parts 382 and 383, §§ 385.21 and 390.21, parts 391 through 393, 395, 396, and 399).

You means an individual or motor carrier or other entity that is, or will be, responsible for the operation of a CMV(s). The term includes a motor carrier’s agents, officers and representatives as well as employees responsible for hiring, supervising, training, assigning, or dispatching of drivers and

employees concerned with the installation, inspection, and maintenance of motor vehicle equipment and/or accessories. *You* also includes any interested party who would like to suggest or recommend that the FMCSA initiate a pilot program.

Subpart B—Procedures for Requesting Waivers

§ 381.200 What is a waiver?

(a) A waiver is temporary regulatory relief from one or more FMCSR given to a person subject to the regulations, or a person who intends to engage in an activity that would be subject to the regulations.

(b) A waiver provides the person with relief from the regulations for up to three months.

(c) A waiver is intended for unique, non-emergency events and is subject to conditions imposed by the Administrator.

(d) Waivers may only be granted from one or more of the requirements contained in the following parts and sections of the FMCSRs:

- (1) Part 382—Controlled Substances and Alcohol Use and Testing;
- (2) Part 383—Commercial Driver’s License Standards; Requirements and Penalties;
- (3) § 390.19 Motor Carrier Identification Report;
- (4) § 390.21 Marking of commercial motor vehicles;
- (5) Part 391—Qualifications of Drivers;
- (6) Part 392—Driving of Commercial Motor Vehicles;
- (7) Part 393—Parts and Accessories Necessary for Safe Operation;
- (8) Part 395—Hours of Service of Drivers;
- (9) Part 396—Inspection, Repair, and Maintenance (except § 396.25); and
- (10) Part 399—Step, Handhold and Deck Requirements.

§ 381.205 How do I determine when I may request a waiver?

(a) You may request a waiver if one or more FMCSR would prevent you from using or operating CMVs, or make it unreasonably difficult to do so, during a unique, non-emergency event

that will take no more than three months to complete.

(b) Before you decide to request a waiver, you should carefully review the regulation to determine whether there are any practical alternatives already available that would allow your use or operation of CMVs during the event. You should also determine whether you need a waiver from all of the requirements in one or more parts of the regulations, or whether a more limited waiver of certain sections within one or more of the parts of the regulations would provide an acceptable level of regulatory relief. For example, if you need relief from one of the record-keeping requirements concerning driver qualifications, you should not request relief from all of the requirements of part 391.

§ 381.210 How do I request a waiver?

(a) You must send a written request (for example, a typed or handwritten (printed) letter), which includes all of the information required by this section, to the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administrator, U.S. Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590.

(b) You must identify the person who would be covered by the waiver. The application for a waiver must include:

- (1) Your name, job title, mailing address, and daytime telephone number;
- (2) The name of the individual, motor carrier, or other entity that would be responsible for the use or operation of CMVs during the unique, non-emergency event;
- (3) Principal place of business for the motor carrier or other entity (street address, city, State, and zip code); and
- (4) The USDOT identification number for the motor carrier, if applicable.

(c) You must provide a written statement that:

- (1) Describes the unique, non-emergency event for which the waiver would be used, including the time period during which the waiver is needed;
- (2) Identifies the regulation that you believe needs to be waived;
- (3) Provides an estimate of the total number of drivers and CMVs that would be operated under the terms and conditions of the waiver; and