

decision to renew exemptions for 12 individuals from the epilepsy and seizure disorders prohibition in 49 CFR 391.41(b)(8) to operate a CMV in interstate commerce and requested comments from the public (91 FR 3978). The public comment period ended on March 2, 2026, and no comments were received.

The Agency evaluated the eligibility of these applicants and determined that renewing these applicants' exemptions would likely achieve a level of safety that is equivalent to, or greater than, the level of safety that would be achieved by complying with 49 CFR 391.41(b)(8).

IV. Discussion of Comments

FMCSA received no comments in this proceeding.

V. Basis for Renewing Exemptions

In accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315(b), each of the 12 applicants have satisfied the renewal conditions for obtaining an exemption from the epilepsy and seizure disorders prohibition. The 12 drivers in this notice remain in good standing with the Agency, have maintained their medical monitoring and have not exhibited any medical issues that would compromise their ability to safely operate a CMV during the previous 2-year exemption period. In addition, the Agency has reviewed each applicant's certified driving record from their State Driver's Licensing Agency (SDLA). The information obtained from each applicant's driving record provides the Agency with details regarding any moving violations or reported crash data, which demonstrates whether the driver has a safe driving history and is an indicator of future driving performance. If the driving record revealed a crash, FMCSA requested and reviewed the related police reports and other relevant documents, such as the citation and conviction information. These factors provide an adequate basis for predicting each driver's ability to continue to safely operate a CMV in interstate commerce. Accordingly, FMCSA concludes that extending the exemption for each renewal applicant for a period of 2 years is likely to achieve a level of safety equivalent to, or greater than, the level of safety that would be achieved without the exemption.

VI. Terms and Conditions

The exemptions are extended subject to the following conditions: each driver must (1) remain seizure-free, maintain a stable treatment, and report to FMCSA within 24 hours if they experience a seizure during the 2-year exemption

period; (2) submit to FMCSA annual reports from their treating physicians attesting to the stability of treatment and that the driver has remained seizure-free; (3) undergo an annual medical examination by a certified medical examiner, as defined by 49 CFR 390.5T; (4) provide a copy of the annual medical certification to the employer for retention in the driver's qualification file, or keep a copy in their driver's qualification file if they are self-employed; (5) report to FMCSA the date, time, and location of any crashes, as defined in 49 CFR 390.5T, within 7 days of the crash; (6) report to FMCSA any citations and convictions for disqualifying offenses under 49 CFR parts 383 and 391 within 7 days of the citation and conviction; and (7) submit to FMCSA annual certified driving records from their SDLA. The driver must also have a copy of the exemption when driving, for presentation to a duly authorized Federal, State, or local law enforcement official. In addition, the driver must meet all the applicable commercial driver's license testing requirements.

VII. Preemption

During the period the exemption is in effect, no State shall enforce any law or regulation that conflicts with this exemption with respect to a person operating under the exemption.

VIII. Conclusion

Based on its evaluation of the 12 renewal exemption applications and supporting materials, and no comments received, FMCSA announces its decision to grant a 2-year exemption to each of the following drivers from the epilepsy and seizure disorders prohibition in 49 CFR 391.41(b)(8).

As of January 30, 2026, and in accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315(b), the following 12 individuals have satisfied the renewal conditions for obtaining an exemption from the epilepsy and seizure disorders prohibition in the FMCSRs for interstate CMV drivers:

Eric Barnwell (MI)
Robert A. Clark (IN)
Gary Freeman (WI)
Aaron Gillette (SD)
Alex Hohman (PA)
Thomas Johnston (WI)
Douglas Kelbley (OH)
Jason Kirkham (WI)
Eric Langford (KY)
Brent Mapes (IL)
Pedro Martinez (TX)
Ronald Minor (IL)

The drivers were included in docket numbers FMCSA–2006–25854,

FMCSA–2013–0106, FMCSA–2013–0108, FMCSA–2015–0117, FMCSA–2019–0028, FMCSA–2023–0038, or FMCSA–2023–0039. Their exemptions were applicable as of January 30, 2026, and will expire on January 30, 2028.

In accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31315(b), and FMCSA's policy of issuing medical exemptions for a 2-year period to correspond with the medical certificate, each exemption will be valid for 2 years from the effective date unless revoked earlier by FMCSA. The exemption will be revoked if the following occurs: (1) the person fails to comply with the terms and conditions of the exemption, as set forth in the initial renewal notice (91 FR 3978) and incorporated herein; (2) the exemption has resulted in a lower level of safety than was maintained prior to being granted; or (3) continuation of the exemption would not be consistent with the goals and objectives of Title 49, chapter 313 or section 31136.

Larry W. Minor,

Associate Administrator for Policy.

[FR Doc. 2026–18311 Filed 9–8–26; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

[Docket No. FMCSA–2023–0034; FMCSA–2023–0037; FMCSA–2025–0015; SA–2026–0042]

Qualification of Drivers; Exemption Applications; Epilepsy and Seizure Disorders

AGENCY: Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), Department of Transportation (DOT).

ACTION: Notice of applications for exemption; request for comments.

SUMMARY: FMCSA announces receipt of applications from 21 individuals for an exemption from the prohibition in the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (FMCSRs) against persons with a clinical diagnosis of epilepsy or any other condition that is likely to cause a loss of consciousness or any loss of ability to control a commercial motor vehicle (CMV) to drive in interstate commerce. If granted, the exemptions would enable these individuals who have had one or more seizures and are taking anti-seizure medication to operate CMVs in interstate commerce.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before October 9, 2026.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments identified by Docket No. FMCSA–2023–

0034, FMCSA–2023–0037, FMCSA–2025–0015, or FMCSA–2026–0042 using any of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal*: Go to www.regulations.gov, insert the docket number (FMCSA–2023–0034, FMCSA–2023–0037, FMCSA–2025–0015, or FMCSA–2026–0042) in the keyword box and click “Search.” Next, choose the only notice listed, and click on the “Comment” button. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.

- *Mail*: Dockets Operations, U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, W58–213, Washington, DC 20590–0001.

- *Hand Delivery or Courier*: Dockets Operations, U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, W58–213, Washington, DC 20590–0001, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

- *Fax*: (202) 493–2251.

To avoid duplication, please use only one of these four methods. See the “Public Participation” portion of the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section for instructions on submitting comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Christine A. Hydock, Chief, Medical Programs Division, FMCSA, DOT, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590–0001; (202) 366–4001; fmcsamedical@dot.gov. Office hours are 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. ET Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Public Participation

A. Submitting Comments

If you submit a comment, please include the docket number for this notice (FMCSA–2023–0034, FMCSA–2023–0037, FMCSA–2025–0015, or FMCSA–2026–0042), indicate the specific section of this document to which each comment applies, and provide a reason for each suggestion or recommendation. You may submit your comments and material online or by fax, mail, or hand delivery, but please use only one of these means. FMCSA recommends that you include your name and a mailing address, an email address, or a phone number in the body of your document so that FMCSA can contact you if there are questions regarding your submission.

To submit your comment online, go to <https://www.regulations.gov/docket/FMCSA-2023-0034>, FMCSA–2023–0037, FMCSA–2025–0015, or FMCSA–2026–0042. Next, choose the only notice listed, click the “Comment” button, and type your comment into the text box on the following screen. Choose whether you are submitting your comment as an

individual or on behalf of a third party and then submit.

If you submit your comments by mail or hand delivery, submit them in an unbound format, no larger than 8½ by 11 inches, suitable for copying and electronic filing. FMCSA will consider all comments and material received during the comment period.

B. Confidential Business Information (CBI)

CBI is commercial or financial information that is both customarily and actually treated as private by its owner. Under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552), CBI is exempt from public disclosure. If your comments responsive to the notice contain commercial or financial information that is customarily treated as private, that you actually treat as private, and that is relevant or responsive to the notice, it is important that you clearly designate the submitted comments as CBI. Please mark each page of your submission that constitutes CBI as “PROPIN” to indicate it contains proprietary information. FMCSA will treat such marked submissions as confidential under the Freedom of Information Act, and they will not be placed in the public docket of the notice. Submissions containing CBI should be sent to Brian Dahlin, Chief, Regulatory Evaluation Division, Office of Policy, FMCSA, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590–0001 or via email at brian.g.dahlin@dot.gov. At this time, you need not send a duplicate hardcopy of your electronic CBI submissions to FMCSA headquarters. Any comments FMCSA receives not specifically designated as CBI will be placed in the public docket for this notice.

C. Viewing Comments

To view comments, go to www.regulations.gov, insert the docket number (FMCSA–2023–0034, FMCSA–2023–0037, FMCSA–2025–0015, or FMCSA–2026–0042) in the keyword box and click “Search.” Next, choose the only notice listed, and click “Browse Comments.” If you do not have access to the internet, you may view the docket online by visiting Dockets Operations in room W58–213 of the DOT West Building, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590–0001, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. ET Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

D. Privacy Act

In accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31315(b)(6), DOT solicits comments from the public on the exemption request. DOT posts these comments,

including any personal information the commenter provides, to www.regulations.gov, as described in the system of records notice DOT/ALL–14 FDMS (Federal Docket Management System), which can be reviewed under the “Department Wide System of Records Notices” link at <https://www.transportation.gov/individuals/privacy/privacy-act-system-records-notices>. The comments are posted without edit and are searchable by the name of the submitter.

II. Legal Basis

FMCSA has authority under 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315(b) to grant exemptions from the FMCSRs. FMCSA must publish a notice of each exemption request in the **Federal Register** (49 CFR 381.315(a)). The Agency must provide the public an opportunity to inspect the information relevant to the application, including the applicant’s safety analysis. The Agency must provide an opportunity for public comment on the request.

The Agency reviews the application, safety analyses, and public comments submitted and determines whether granting the exemption would likely achieve a level of safety equivalent to, or greater than, the level of safety that would be achieved absent such exemption, pursuant to the standard set forth 49 U.S.C. 31315(b)(1). The Agency must publish its decision in the **Federal Register** (49 CFR 381.315(b)). If granted, the notice will identify the regulatory provision from which the applicant will be exempt, the effective period, and all terms and conditions of the exemption (49 CFR 381.315(c)(1)). If the exemption is denied, the notice will explain the reason for the denial (49 CFR 381.315(c)(2)). The exemption may be renewed (49 CFR 381.300(b)). FMCSA grants medical exemptions from the FMCSRs for a 2-year period to align with the maximum duration of a driver’s medical certification.

III. Background

The physical qualification standard for drivers regarding seizures and loss of consciousness provides that a person is physically qualified to drive a CMV if that person has “no established medical history or clinical diagnosis of epilepsy or any other condition which is likely to cause the loss of consciousness or any loss of ability to control” a CMV (49 CFR 391.41(b)(8)). To assist in applying this standard, FMCSA publishes guidance for medical examiners (ME) in the form of medical advisory criteria in

Appendix A to 49 CFR part 391.¹ In 2007, FMCSA published recommendations from a Medical Expert Panel (MEP) that FMCSA tasked to review the existing seizure disorder guidelines for MEs.² The MEP performed a comprehensive, systematic literature review, including evidence available at the time. The MEP issued recommended criteria to evaluate whether an individual with a history of epilepsy, a single unprovoked seizure, or a provoked seizure should be allowed to drive a CMV.

On January 15, 2013, FMCSA began granting exemptions, on a case-by-case basis, to individual drivers from the physical qualification standard regarding seizures and loss of consciousness in 49 CFR 391.41(b)(8) (78 FR 3069). The Agency considers the medical advisory criteria, the 2007 MEP recommendations, any public comments received, and each individual's medical information and driving record in deciding whether to grant the exemption.

The 21 individuals listed in this notice have requested an exemption from the epilepsy and seizure disorders prohibition in 49 CFR 391.41(b)(8). Accordingly, the Agency will evaluate the qualifications of each applicant to determine whether granting the exemption will achieve the required level of safety mandated by statute.

IV. Qualifications of Applicants

Julio Baez-Soto

Julio Baez-Soto is a 40-year-old class D license holder in New York. He has a history of seizure disorder and has been seizure free since May 22, 2018. He takes an anti-seizure medication with the dosage and frequency remaining the same since May 2018. His physician states that they are supportive of him receiving an exemption.

Lee Bevins

Lee Bevins is a 68-year-old class D license holder in Vermont. He has a history of seizure disorder and has been seizure free since 1999. He takes an anti-seizure medication with the dosage and frequency remaining the same since 2002. His physician states that they are supportive of him receiving an exemption.

Ricky Bloesser

Ricky Bloesser is a 30-year-old class A commercial driver license (CDL) holder in Colorado. He has a history of single unprovoked seizure and has been seizure free since February 17, 2022. He discontinued all anti-seizure medication in April 2022. His physician states that they are supportive of him receiving an exemption.

Creed Bonovsky

Creed Bonovsky is a 21-year-old class B enhanced CDL holder in Minnesota. He has a history of focal epilepsy and has been seizure free since January 19, 2012. He takes an anti-seizure medication with the dosage and frequency remaining the same since February 1, 2016. His physician states that they are supportive of him receiving an exemption.

Hector Corrales

Hector Corrales is a 50-year-old class A CDL holder in Pennsylvania. He has a history of generalized epilepsy and has been seizure free since September 2014. He takes an anti-seizure medication with the dosage and frequency remaining the same since October 2023. His physician states that they are supportive of him receiving an exemption.

Robert Dorough

Robert Dorough is a 36-year-old class E license holder in Florida. He has a history of seizure disorder and has been seizure free since 2009. He takes an anti-seizure medication with the dosage and frequency remaining the same since 2009. His physician states that they are supportive of him receiving an exemption.

Alvaro Gonzalez

Alvaro Gonzalez is a 42-year-old class C license holder in California. He has a history of epilepsy and has been seizure free since 2016. He takes an anti-seizure medication with the dosage and frequency remaining the same since 2024. His physician states that they are supportive of him receiving an exemption.

Lionnel Hakizimana

Lionnel Hakizimana is a 38-year-old class D license holder in Arizona. He has a history of epilepsy and has been seizure free for over 19 years. He takes an anti-seizure medication with the dosage and frequency remaining the same for over 19 years. His physician states that they are supportive of him receiving an exemption.

Robert Hudson

Robert Hudson is a 22-year-old class D license holder in New Jersey. He has a history of epilepsy and has been seizure free since January 2017. He takes anti-seizure medication with the dosage and frequency remaining the same since January 2018. His physician states that they are supportive of him receiving an exemption.

Eric Klause

Eric Klause is a 40-year-old class E license holder in Florida. He has a history of focal epilepsy and has been seizure free since 2007. He takes an anti-seizure medication with the dosage and frequency remaining the same since March 2024. His physician states that they are supportive of him receiving an exemption.

Taylor Mayer

Taylor Mayer is a 38-year-old class D license holder in Arizona. He has a history of epilepsy and has been seizure free since 2016. He takes anti-seizure medication with the dosage and frequency remaining the same since 2016. His physician states that they are supportive of him receiving an exemption.

Zachary McGory

Zachary McGory is a 33-year-old class C license holder in New York. He has a history of epilepsy and has been seizure free since August 2011. He takes an anti-seizure medication with the dosage and frequency remaining the same since 2012. His physician states that they are supportive of him receiving an exemption.

Diana Mugford

Diana Mugford is a 58-year-old class A license holder in Vermont. She has a history of epilepsy and has been seizure free since July 7, 2007. She takes an anti-seizure medication with the dosage and frequency remaining the same since July 7, 2007. Her physician states that they are supportive of her receiving an exemption.

Lawrence Newswanger

Lawrence Newswanger is a 57-year-old regular driver's license holder in Indiana. He has a history of epilepsy and has been seizure free since 2014. He takes an anti-seizure medication with the dosage and frequency remaining the same since April 2022. His physician states that they are supportive of him receiving an exemption.

Serena Ramos

Serena Ramos is a 37-year-old class C license holder in Texas. She has a

¹ Appendix A to Part 391, Title 49, available at <https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-49/part-391/appendix-Appendix A to Part 391>.

² "Expert Panel Recommendations, Seizure Disorders and Commercial Motor Vehicle Driver Safety," Medical Expert Panel (Oct. 15, 2007), available at <https://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/sites/fmcsa.dot.gov/files/2020-04/Seizure-Disorders-MEP-Recommendations-v2-prot%2010152007.pdf>.

history of epilepsy and has been seizure free since July 2015. She takes an anti-seizure medication with the dosage and frequency remaining the same since June 2015. Her physician states that they are supportive of her receiving an exemption.

Brian Samec

Brian Samec is a 43-year-old class E license holder in Florida. He has a history of seizure disorder and has been seizure free since January 19, 2007. He takes an anti-seizure medication with the dosage and frequency remaining the same since June 20, 2016. His physician states that they are supportive of him receiving an exemption.

Oren Shkedy

Oren Shkedy is a 24-year-old class C license holder in Texas. He has a history of epilepsy and has been seizure free since August 2016. He takes an anti-seizure medication with the dosage and frequency remaining the same since 2016. His physician states that they are supportive of him receiving an exemption.

Samuel Thomas

Samuel Thomas is a 30-year-old class C license holder in Pennsylvania. He has a history of epilepsy and has been seizure free since September 2012. He takes an anti-seizure medication with the dosage and frequency remaining the same since June 2024. His physician states that they are supportive of him receiving an exemption.

Matthew Toy

Matthew Toy is a 44-year-old class C license holder in Maryland. He has a history of seizure disorder and has been seizure free since 2002. He takes an anti-seizure medication with the dosage and frequency remaining the same since September 26, 2024. His physician states that they are supportive of him receiving an exemption.

Anthony Weiss

Anthony Weiss is a 49-year-old class C license holder in Iowa. He has a history of epilepsy and has been seizure free since 2007. He takes an anti-seizure medication with the dosage and frequency remaining the same since February 2008. His physician states that they are supportive of him receiving an exemption.

William Wilson

William Wilson is a 50-year-old class CM license holder in Texas. He has a history of epilepsy and has been seizure free since January 2008. He takes an anti-seizure medication with the dosage

and frequency remaining the same since May 5, 2004. His physician states that they are supportive of him receiving an exemption.

V. Request for Comments

In accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315(b), FMCSA requests public comment from all interested persons on the exemption applications described in this notice. FMCSA will consider all comments received before the close of business on the closing date indicated under the **DATES** section of the notice.

Larry W. Minor,

Associate Administrator for Policy.

[FR Doc. 2026–18270 Filed 9–8–26; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

[Docket No. FMCSA–2026–0035]

Qualification of Drivers; Exemption Applications; Epilepsy and Seizure Disorders

AGENCY: Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), Department of Transportation (DOT).

ACTION: Notice of final disposition.

SUMMARY: FMCSA announces its decision to exempt 14 individuals from the requirement in the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (FMCSRs) that interstate commercial motor vehicle (CMV) drivers have “no established medical history or clinical diagnosis of epilepsy or any other condition which is likely to cause loss of consciousness or any loss of ability to control a CMV.” The exemptions enable these individuals who have had one or more seizures and are taking anti-seizure medication to operate CMVs in interstate commerce.

DATES: The exemptions were applicable on April 21, 2026. The exemptions expire on April 21, 2028.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Christine A. Hydock, Chief, Medical Programs Division, FMCSA, DOT, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590–0001; (202) 366–4001; fmcsmmedical@dot.gov. Office hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. ET Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Public Participation

A. Viewing Comments

To view comments, go to www.regulations.gov. Insert the docket

number, (FMCSA–2026–0035) in the keyword box and click “Search.” Next, choose the only notice listed, and click “Browse Comments.” If you do not have access to the internet, you may view the docket online by visiting Dockets Operations in room W58–213 of the DOT West Building, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590–0001, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. ET Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

B. Privacy Act

In accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31315(b)(6), DOT solicits comments from the public on the exemption requests. DOT posts these comments, including any personal information the commenter provides, to www.regulations.gov, as described in the system of records notice DOT/ALL–14 FDMS (Federal Docket Management System), which can be reviewed under the “Department Wide System of Records Notices” link at <https://www.transportation.gov/individuals/privacy/privacy-act-system-records-notices>. The comments are posted without edit and are searchable by the name of the submitter.

II. Legal Basis

FMCSA has authority under 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315(b) to grant exemptions from the FMCSRs. FMCSA must publish a notice of each exemption request in the **Federal Register** (49 CFR 381.315(a)). The Agency must provide the public an opportunity to inspect the information relevant to the application, including the applicant’s safety analysis. The Agency must provide an opportunity for public comment on the request.

The Agency reviews the application, safety analyses, and public comments submitted and determines whether granting the exemption would likely achieve a level of safety equivalent to, or greater than, the level that would be achieved absent such exemption, pursuant to the standard set forth in 49 U.S.C. 31315(b)(1). The Agency must publish its decision in the **Federal Register** (49 CFR 381.315(b)). If granted, the notice will identify the regulatory provision from which the applicant will be exempt, the effective period, and all terms and conditions of the exemption (49 CFR 381.315(c)(1)). If the exemption is denied, the notice will explain the reason for the denial (49 CFR 381.315(c)(2)). The exemption may be renewed (49 CFR 381.300(b)).

III. Background

The physical qualification standard for drivers regarding seizures and loss of