



# FACT SHEET MEDICAL EXAMINER

## The National Registry of Certified Medical Examiners

The National Registry of Certified Medical Examiners (National Registry) is a Federal program that establishes requirements for healthcare professionals that perform physical qualification examinations for truck and bus drivers. To become a certified medical examiner (ME) and be listed on the National Registry, healthcare professionals must complete training and testing on the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's (FMCSA) physical qualifications standards and guidelines.

## Background Information

- The National Registry:
  - o Ensures that medical examiners sufficiently understand how FMCSA medical regulations and related guidance apply to CMV drivers.
  - o Was created to enhance CMV driver health and reduce highway crashes. Information from NTSB crash investigations indicates that improper medical certification of CMV drivers with serious disqualifying medical conditions has directly contributed to fatal and injury crashes.
- Important Dates
  - o The National Registry is effective 30 days after publication with a compliance date of 2 years from the effective date.
  - o Two years from the effective date, all interstate CMV drivers must have their physical examination performed by a certified medical examiner listed on the National Registry.

## Impact on Medical Examiners

- Medical examiners that currently perform or wish to perform physical examinations for interstate CMV drivers must complete training about FMCSA's physical qualifications regulations and advisory criteria, and pass a certification test to be listed on the National Registry.
- Medical examiners that pass the certification test will receive a certificate as proof of successful completion of the certification test.
- Certified medical examiners will be listed in an online registry.
- Two years from the effective date, only certified medical examiners are allowed to perform CMV driver physical examinations.
  - o Only those driver certificates issued by medical examiners listed on the National Registry will be considered valid by FMCSA.
- Once certified, medical examiners must comply with training, testing, and FMCSA administrative requirements to maintain a listing on the National Registry.
- Medical examiners must take refresher training every 5 years and take the certification test every 10 years to maintain their certification.

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## Obtaining and Maintaining Medical Examiner Certification

### Becoming a Certified Medical Examiner

To become a certified medical examiner you must:

- Be licensed, certified, or registered to perform physical examinations in accordance with applicable State laws and regulations.
- Register through the National Registry System and receive a unique identifier.
- Complete required training.
- Pass the Medical Examiner Certification Test.

### Administrative Requirements for Medical Examiners

To maintain your certification you must:

- Submit Form MCSA-5850 for each driver examined electronically every month via the National Registry website. If no exams were performed during the month, that must also be reported.
- Submit to periodic monitoring and audits.

- Submit any changes in the application information to FMCSA within 30 days of the change.
- Report to FMCSA any information related to any termination, suspension, or withdrawal of your license, registration, or certificate under State law.
- Maintain documentation of State licensing, registration, or certification and completion of all required training.
- Retain original completed Medical Examination Reports for all drivers examined and a copy or electronic version of the driver's medical examiner's certificate for at least 3 years from the date of the examination.
- Provide copies of Medical Examination Reports and medical examiner's certificates to FMCSA upon request.
- Follow all FMCSA administrative requirements.
- Maintain certification by completing periodic training every 5 years and recertify by passing the ME certification exam every 10 years.

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For more information, visit the National Registry website at <http://nrcme.fmcsa.dot.gov>.

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