

If you're having trouble viewing this email, click [here](#).



November 22, 2019

This communication contains information about new federal transportation regulations that affect Ohio public schools.

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) has the responsibility for overseeing the training and licensing of all commercial vehicle operators, including school bus drivers. They are implementing some new programs that require mandatory compliance. The first of these that affects school transportation administrators is the Drug and Alcohol Clearinghouse.

Drug and Alcohol Clearinghouse

Beginning on January 6, 2020, all employers of CDL drivers will have to be registered with the FMCSA drug and alcohol clearinghouse, and will be required to check the clearinghouse for each driver candidate prior to employment, as well as completing annual checks on each driver. This new process supplements the existing requirement to perform checks with previous employers for the two years prior to employment.

The process for complying with this required program is threefold:

1. An administrator with the school district must register with the clearinghouse.
2. The district must purchase "queries", which are used to check driver records in the clearinghouse.
3. The district must check all candidates prior to employing them as a school bus driver, and must check all employed drivers at least once each year.

FMCSA has posted information on their website about the clearinghouse. Many of the drug and alcohol testing services that support Ohio's schools are also sending out information. We have created a dedicated section on the OSBA transportation services web page to collect this information and provide easy access for you. As we continue to research and obtain new information we will add it to this page.

On this page you can find a narrated powerpoint to guide you through the registration process.

The link to this dedicated page is: [OSBA Federal Regulations Resource](#). You will need to log in to the website with your OSBA web credentials to access this site.

Please note that the clearinghouse will collect information as we move forward in time. All positive drug tests and refusals will be recorded in the clearinghouse beginning on January 6, 2020. Unfortunately, anything prior to that is still only obtained by completing the required history checks going back two years with previous employers of individuals that already have their CDL. (These checks are not required if you are the employer that is helping the candidate obtain their CDL for the first time.) Not until January 6 of 2022 will we be able to stop checking records manually with previous employers. Until then we must use both procedures.

Entry level driver training requirements (ELDT)

A second program was adopted in federal rule making several years ago, and is intended to formalize the training requirements for any individual seeking a new or upgraded CDL license. The program includes classroom training, behind the wheel training, and an electronic registry where successful training is recorded. The BMV will only accept candidates for CDL testing who have a record in the electronic registry of successful completion of the required training.

Recently the FMCSA took official action to delay the implementation of the electronic registry until 2022. Administrative staff with FMCSA also announced at a recent national transportation conference that the training requirements (classroom and behind-the-wheel) will be delayed until 2022, however that information has not yet been posted in the Federal Register.

As soon as official notification is published in the Federal Register and more information is available, we will provide updates.

Ohio School Boards Association
8050 N High St, Suite 100
Columbus, OH 43235

<http://www.ohioschoolboards.org>

Copyright © 2019 All rights reserved.

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe](#).

WARNING! If you unsubscribe, you will be unsubscribing from all OSBA emails and emailed subscriptions.

If you no longer wish to receive this email, please unsubscribe through your account page on the OSBA website.

