



CARDL

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Several changes to CDL skills test procedures took effect July 8, 2015 to bring Michigan into compliance with federal regulations for the testing of persons operating a commercial motor vehicle (CMV). We would like to share this information with our customers and general public to ensure their understanding of the procedures.

14-day waiting period (49 CFR 383.25(6)(e))

An examiner may not administer a CDL skills test to an applicant who has not held a Commercial Learner's Permit (CLP) for at least 14 days. The State of Michigan will not allow scheduling of a test if the issuance date of the original CLP is not at least 14 days prior to the scheduled test date. 14-Days include weekends and holidays. Please Note: There is no "grandfathering" for applicants issued an original CLP in the 14 days prior to July 8, 2015. **Scheduling Your Road Test:** The State of Michigan requires a minimum of two (2) business days in advance.

New CDL restrictions (49 CFR 383.95)

- L – No air brake equipped CMV (formerly the 28 restriction): An applicant who passes the skills test in a CMV equipped with hydraulic brakes receives this restriction. The driver may not drive a CMV equipped with any type of air brake system.
- Z – No full air equipped CMV: An applicant who passes the skills test in a vehicle equipped with air over hydraulic brakes will receive this restriction. Air over hydraulic includes any power unit braking system operation partially on the air brake and partially on the hydraulic brake principle. The driver may not drive a vehicle equipped with any braking system operating fully on the air brake principle. **NOTE:** This restriction is not reported by if an applicant tests in a class "A" combination CMV if the power unit is equipped with full air brakes and the trailer is equipped with hydraulic or electric brakes.
- E – No manual transmission equipped CMV: An applicant who passes a skills test in a vehicle not equipped with a manual transmission receives this restriction. Federal rules define a manual transmission as ". . . a transmission utilizing a driver-operated clutch that is activated by a pedal or lever and a gear-shift mechanism operated either by hand or foot. All other transmissions, whether semi-automatic or automatic, will be considered automatic for the purposes of the standardized restriction code" (49 CFR 383.5). The driver may not drive a CMV equipped with a manual transmission.
- O– No tractor-trailer CMV: An applicant who passes a Group A skills test in a combination vehicle with the power unit and towed unit connected with a pintle hook or other non-fifth wheel connection, or with a power unit that is not a tractor-type CMV, will receive this restriction. The individual is restricted from operating a tractor-trailer combination connected by a fifth wheel that requires a Group A CDL.
- M – No Class A passenger vehicle (formerly the 29 restriction): An applicant who passes a skills test in a Group B passenger or school bus CMV receives this restriction. The driver may not drive a Group A passenger or school bus CMV.
- N – No Class A and B passenger vehicle (formerly the 30 restriction): An applicant who passes a skills test in a Group C Passenger CMV receives this restriction. The driver may not drive a Group A or B passenger or school bus CMV.
- K - A driver with a "K" restriction has self-certified their driving status as either Non-Excepted Intrastate or Excepted Intrastate. The driver is restricted to intrastate driving. Our Examiners cannot remove this restriction. A driver must do so themselves by visiting the Secretary of State or complete and submit a CDL Self Certification and Medical online here: http://www.michigan.gov/sos/0,4670,7-127-1627_8669_53324-268586--,00.html **NOTE:** Drivers will be required to scan and upload your DOT Medical Wallet Card to release the "K" restriction.
- V – Medical Variance: A driver with a "V" restriction has qualified for a medical variance according to 49 CFR 383.73(o)(3). The driver may be restricted under the terms of the medical variance. Our Examiners cannot remove this restriction.

Definitions and Permit (CLP) Information

CMV = Commercial Motor Vehicle CDL = Commercial Driver License
CLP = Commercial Learner's Permit (formerly TIP, or Temporary Instruction Permit)

RESTRICTIONS APPLICABLE ONLY TO THE CLP

The following restrictions apply to a driver only while driving on a CLP. Both are applied programmatically and are removed upon issuance of the CDL. The examiner does not report them on the skills test certificate.

- **P – No passengers in CMV bus:** A CLP holder with the “P” endorsement is prohibited from operating a CMV carrying passengers, other than Federal/State auditors and inspectors, test examiners, other trainees, or the CDL supervising driver.
- **X – No cargo in CMV tank vehicle:** A CLP holder with an “N” endorsement may only operate an empty tank vehicle and is prohibited from operating any tank vehicle that previously contained hazardous materials unless the tank has been purged of any residue.

CURRENT CDL HOLDERS TESTING TO ADD ENDORSEMENTS WHICH REQUIRE ROAD EXAM

The restrictions E, L, O, and Z are not applied to a driver who, before the test, held a CDL without the restriction. **Example** - applicant holds a group A CDL with no restrictions; he or she takes a skills test in a class B school bus with an automatic transmission and hydraulic brakes. It is not necessary for the examiner to question the applicant on what type of vehicle he or she used when he or she tested for a group A CDL; applicant is grandfathered. The examiner would report CDL-A / PS / M.

CURRENT CDL HOLDERS TESTING TO CLEAR VARIOUS RESTRICTIONS

O – No tractor trailer CMV: IMPORTANT: This restriction is not reported by the examiner if an applicant who currently holds a CDL with an “A” group designation without the “O” restriction tests to clear an air brake restriction or a manual transmission restriction in a class A CMV that is not a tractor-trailer.

L – No air brake equipped CMV: For an applicant who does not already hold a CDL, the examiner must restrict and report it on the Final License line on the skills test certificate if an applicant tests in a CMV not equipped with air brakes. For an applicant who already holds a CDL, the examiner reports the restriction on the certificate only if the air brake restriction is on the applicant's CDL.

NOTE: Applicants wishing to remove an No Tractor/Trailer CMV, Air Brake or Manual Transmission Restriction must visit the Secretary of State office and obtain a new permit removing the “O” or “E” Restriction and/or take and pass the Air Brake Written Test and obtain a new permit with the “L” Restriction removed. **Applicant must wait 14-Days to take Road Exam, as these are considered an upgrade to their current license. Applicant must also test in a CMV with the appropriate qualifications to remove the restriction(s).**