

Welcome to the SCDMV

December 20, 2021

Trucking Connection - December 2021

The South Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles (SCDMV) provides information for motor carrier customers, from commercial driver's licenses (CDLs) to International Registration Plan (IRP) and International Fuel Tax Agreement (IFTA) accounts.

In this issue, you'll find information about SCDMV staffing changes, creating a new IRP/IFTA account, IRP/IFTA renewals, entry-level driver training (ELDT), and CDL skills test information.

Motor Carrier News

New Chief of Motor Carrier Services

The SCDMV is pleased to introduce Jamie Price as the new Chief of Motor Carrier Services (MCS). Price comes to the agency with more than 27 years of leadership and organizational experience from his Army service.

Creating a New IRP/IFTA Account

All new IRP and IFTA accounts must be created online. To register for the online portal, follow the steps below:

1. Go to [SCDMVonline.com](https://www.scdmvonline.com)
2. Click the "Business Customer" link in the top menu
3. Click the "Motor Carrier" link, found under the "Services" header

4. Click the green button "Apply for New IRP And IFTA Account," found under the "New Account Portal" header
5. Click the "Click Here" link to create an account.*
6. Fill in the Registration Page

Only create one username and password. The username **cannot be an email address. The password **cannot** contain the following: (@, #, &, * or %).*

Applicants can apply for new IRP/IFTA accounts once the registration for the online portal is complete. Once the application is submitted, applicants will receive an email advising the next steps in the review process.

IRP/IFTA Account Renewals

IRP credentials and IFTA licenses are renewed every year. The agency's MCS office sends email reminders 30 to 45 days before the expiration date.

IFTA Renewal

IFTA renewals are due by December 31, 2021 to receive the new 2022 IFTA sticker. Enforcement starts January 1, 2022.

IFTA renewals require **all** of the following:

- Application for International Fuel Tax Agreement (IFTA) Credentials (Form IFTA-1),
- Agreement to Prepare/Maintain Records (Forms MC-7), and
- A vehicle listing of the vehicles on the IFTA account including full VIN, Year, Make, Model and Plate Number.

The SCDMV will only issue IFTA stickers for vehicles on the IRP accounts with active apportioned plates.

Carriers renewing their IFTA license and decals have a two-month grace period (January and February) to display the renewed IFTA license and decals. To operate in IFTA jurisdictions during this grace period, carriers must display either valid current or prior year IFTA license and decals from the jurisdiction in which they were operating or a valid single-trip permit from the IFTA jurisdiction in which they are operating.

IRP Renewal

If you are processing a renewal online and you have not submitted all proper documents already, the SCDMV will accept the following supporting documentation via fax at (803)-896-2698 to complete the renewal:

- Operational Lease Agreement (Form IRP-9),
- Agreement to Prepare/Maintain Records (Forms MC-7), and
- Heavy Highway Vehicle Use Tax (HVUT) Return (Form 2290).

Mileage Reporting Tips

When renewing your IRP account, be sure to report accurate miles during the reporting period. A common mistake seen during audits of IRP/IFTA renewal packets is unrealistic mileage reports.

Carriers cannot estimate distance for jurisdictions from the actual distance the fleet accumulated in the previous reporting period.

The IRP/IFTA plans require carriers to maintain adequate records for a period of 3 years. You are required to read and sign the MC-7 annually, which states you will maintain accountable distance. This includes:

- Interjurisdictional and intrajurisdictional distance
- Loaded and empty distance
- Deadhead and/or bobtail distance
- Off-highway distance
- Trip permit distance.

GPS data and the [IFTA Trip Calculator \(https://ifta-calculator.com/\)](https://ifta-calculator.com/) are tools that can assist you with maintaining accurate mileage reports.

Road Use Fee Remaining Balance

It has been brought to the attention of the MCS office that due to a system glitch related to road use fee (RUF) quarterly payment notifications, notifications were not sent out in a timely manner.



As a result, carriers that chose to pay quarterly installments of RUF for registration year 2020 were not notified of when payments were due and were allowed to renew for registration year 2021 with an unpaid RUF balance. Due to this glitch, carriers that have a remaining RUF balance from expiration year 2020 and 2021 will not be responsible to pay the full amount at once.

The agency will allow for carriers that have a remaining RUF balance from expiration year 2020 and 2021 to pay the remaining RUF balance, in separate quarters, by their next registration year.

Contact Motor Carrier Services

For any additional questions, contact Motor Carrier Services at 803-896-3870 or email MCSRUF@scdmv.net.

Commercial Driver's Licenses

Entry-Level Driver Training

The ELDT regulations set uniform minimum training standards for entry-level drivers seeking to obtain certain commercial driver's licenses (CDLs) and CDL endorsements, as established in [49 CFR part 380 subpart F](#).

Entry-level drivers include those applying to:

- Obtain a Class A or Class B CDL for the first time;
- Upgrade an existing Class B CDL to a Class A CDL; or
- Obtain a school bus (S), passenger (P), or hazardous materials (H) endorsement for the first time.

Beginning **February 7, 2022**, individuals applying for the above CDL or endorsements must have completed the training required by the ELDT regulations to be eligible to take the required CDL skills test or the H endorsement knowledge test.

An applicant who obtains a commercial learner's permit (CLP) before February 7, 2022, **is not required** to complete the entry-level driver training for obtaining a CDL, so long as the applicant obtains a CDL before the CLP expires.

Any individual who meets one of the exceptions for taking a skills test in 49 CFR Part 383 is also exempt from the ELDT requirements.

States may have additional training requirements that exceed the minimum requirements established by the ELDT regulations. For more information on their state's requirements, CDL applicants can contact the appropriate state agency that handles commercial licenses.

Entry-level drivers subject to the ELDT regulations must complete driver training from a training provider registered with the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA).

For more information about the ELDT regulations and the Training Provider Registry, visit the [FMCSA Training Provider Registry](#) and the [FMCSA ELDT FAQ page](#).

CDL Skills Test Updates and Standby Appointments

Due to a change in agency procedure on December 1, 2021, applicants who fail any type of skills test on their first attempt may not attempt to test again until **two business days later**. Previously, applicants were required to wait at least seven days to attempt the skills test again after their first failure.

Now, applicants must wait seven calendar days after a second failed attempt and 30 calendar days after a third and subsequent attempts to retake the skills test.

Appointments are required for CDL skills tests. CDL applicants can schedule appointments for CDL skills tests every day at one of the nine SCDMV branches listed below that can accommodate this type of test.

1. Bennettsville
2. Columbia – Shop Road
3. Greenville – Saluda Dam Road
4. Greenwood
5. Ladson
6. Myrtle Beach – The Market Common
7. North Augusta
8. Rock Hill
9. Sumter

Effective **January 18, 2022**, the SCDMV will begin allowing CLP holders the opportunity to schedule a Standby CDL Skills Test appointment if an applicant is unable to schedule a dedicated CDL Skills Test appointment at an SCDMV location. This appointment would be for a specific office on a specific day and would only guarantee the applicant a skills test if the office location were to have a no-show for one of its appointments on that day. This appointment is unique in nature and would prevent the scheduling of a regular appointment or another standby appointment on a different day or location.

The applicant would be required to check-in with the office location no later than 8:30 am (9:30 am on Wednesdays) and be present at the designated waiting area when called forward to the testing location if an appointment slot were to open up. Again, this appointment is not a guarantee that the applicant will receive a skills test.

Locations and Standby Days:

1. Bennettsville: Thursdays
2. Greenville Saluda Dam: Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays
3. Greenwood: Wednesdays
4. Ladson: Monday, Thursdays, Fridays
5. Myrtle Beach Commons: Wednesdays, Fridays
6. North Augusta: Mondays
7. Rock Hill: Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays
8. Sumter: Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays
9. Shop Road: Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays

CDL applicants can book a skills test online at <https://scdmvonline.com/schedule-appointment>

Examiner Training Unit Schedule for Q1 2022

If you're a third-party tester, you may be contacted to complete your initial or refresher examiner training with the agency's Examiner Training Unit (ETU). Below is a list of CDL third-party training courses for the first quarter of 2022. All CDL Courses are held at SCDMV Headquarters in Blythewood, Room CG-47. Classes will begin at 9:00 am on the first day, with subsequent classes beginning at 8:30 am.

Course Dates

- 1/24/2022 - 1/28/22: 3rd Party CDL Refresher Deactivated Class B
- 2/14/22 - 2/18/22: 3rd Party CDL Original
- 2/22/22 - 2/25/22: 3rd Party CDL Refresher Deactivated Class A
- 3/7/22 - 3/11/22: 3rd Party CDL Original
- 3/16/22 - 3/18/22: 3rd Party CDL Refresher

For more information on training, please email examinertrainingunit@scdmv.net.

The agency's standard operating procedure is to offer training courses based on the order in which the agency received the application to become a third-party tester.

Contact CDL Help Desk

For any additional questions regarding CDLs, contact the CDL Help Desk at 803-896-2673.



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