

# Highway Safety

## for Missouri Farm Trucks

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Missouri Department of Transportation  
Motor Carrier Services





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*MoDOT's mission is to provide a world-class transportation experience that delights our customers and promotes a prosperous Missouri.*



## Requirements Overview

Some form of regulation has applied to the operation of trucks since the first federal commercial vehicle rules originated in 1939. Missouri adopted the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (FMCSR) in whole and applied them to commercial drivers operating within Missouri on May 13, 1988.

Classification of a truck as a commercial motor vehicle is based on gross weight and area of operation.

A Commercial Motor Vehicle (CMV) is a truck with a gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) or gross combination weight rating (GCWR) of:

- 10,001 lbs. or greater that operates across state lines (interstate), or
- 26,001 lbs. or greater entirely within Missouri (intrastate), or
- Is between 10,000 and 26,001 lbs. or greater and carries any amount of hazardous materials within Missouri (intrastate).
- Is used to transport hazardous materials requiring the display of placards regardless of weight.
- Is used in any type of private or for-hire business, other than personal use.

Regulations that apply to commercial motor vehicles can be found at [www.fmcsa.dot.gov/regulations/title49/b/5/3](http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/regulations/title49/b/5/3).

The regulations govern such things as:

- Part 382 – Controlled Substances/Alcohol Testing
- Part 383 – CDL Requirements
- Part 390 – General
- Part 391 – Driver qualifications and medical exams
- Part 392 – Driving of CMVs
- Part 393 – Parts and Accessories Necessary for Safe Operation
- Part 395 – Hours of Service for Drivers
- Part 396 – Inspection, Repair and Maintenance
- Part 397 – Transportation of Hazardous Materials; Driving and Parking Rules
- Part 398 – Transportation of Migrant Workers
- Part 399 – Employee Safety and Health Standards

These rules apply to everyone who operates a commercial vehicle in Missouri, though many exemptions exist for agricultural operators.

## Covered Farm Vehicles

Under very specific conditions, agricultural hauling is exempt from many Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations.

A covered farm vehicle in Missouri:

- is a straight truck or articulated vehicle, and
- Is registered as a farm vehicle with an “F” tab affixed to the license plate, and
- Is operated by the farm’s owner, employee or owner’s family member, and
- Is used to transport agricultural commodities, livestock, machinery or supplies to or from a farm or ranch, and
- Is not used in for-hire operation (hauling for pay or in trade)
- Is not used to transport commodities requiring the display of a hazardous materials placard.

All of the conditions above must be met to classify a truck as a covered farm vehicle.

If the greater vehicles of a gross vehicle weight or gross vehicle weight rating, is **26,000 pounds or less**, the covered farm vehicle exemptions apply on trips anywhere in the United States;

If the greater vehicles of a gross vehicle weight or gross vehicle weight rating, is **more than 26,000 pounds**, the covered farm vehicle exemptions apply only in the state where the vehicle is registered PLUS across state lines but only within 150 air miles of the farm or ranch.

Vehicles operated interstate are subject to special vehicle registration, fuel tax and other motor carrier programs. Farm vehicles – whether considered covered under the qualifications above or not – must comply with these programs. Please see Page 20 and consult with MoDOT Motor Carrier Services before crossing state lines with any farm vehicle.

Tenants engaged in a crop share farm lease agreement can transport the landlord’s portion of the crops included in the agreement and still qualify for the covered farm vehicle exception.



# Farm Truck Driver Rules

## Driver Qualifications

Anyone who operates a commercial vehicle is considered a driver even if they are unpaid or own the vehicle. All drivers must meet age requirements, speak English, have a valid operating license, be physically capable of operating a truck and follow all applicable state laws.

## CDL Requirements for Farm Trucks

Normally, a Commercial Driver's license is required if;

- A truck exceeds a 26,000 lbs. gross vehicle weight (GVW) or gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR), or
- A combination vehicle with a gross combination weight rating (GCWR) or gross combination weight of 26,001 lbs. or more with a trailer that has a GVWR, or gross weight, of 10,001 or more pounds, whichever is greater,
- A truck of any size which must be placarded to comply with the Hazardous Materials Transportation Act.

No CDL is required of covered farm vehicles if **all of these conditions** are met:

1. A farmer transports their own agricultural products, farm machinery, farm supplies to or from their farm. (If the goods are not for farm use or belong to someone other than the farmer, a CDL is required), and
2. The move is completed entirely within Missouri, or
3. The move is completed across state lines, but remains within 150 air miles of the operator's farm or ranch, and
4. The driver is a farmer, family member of the farmer or an employee of the farm, operating a CMV for farm use, and
5. The load does not have to be placarded for hazardous materials, and
6. The vehicle is not used in a for-hire operation.

The federal motor carrier safety regulation exemptions allowed for farmers and producers apply ONLY when hauling items that belong to the farmer or the farm. If the vehicle is used for hire – whether for payment, barter or trade – ALL regulations apply.

**Commercial Driver’s License**

Standard or Apportioned License Plated Vehicle	“F”-plated Covered Farm Vehicle
<p>No CDL required if</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The vehicle is owned and operated by the farmer transporting farm supplies, farm machinery or agricultural products to and/or from the farm within a 150-air mile radius of the farm.</li> <li>• The vehicle does not carry hazardous material in an amount that requires use of a placard.</li> <li>• The vehicle is not used in for-hire operation</li> </ul> <p>The driver must hold a Missouri Class E driver’s license.</p> <p>A reciprocal agreement between Missouri and the states of Iowa and Nebraska only allows drivers to transport farm/ranch goods across the border – up to 150 air-miles from the farm/ranch – without requiring a CDL.</p>	<p>No CDL Required.</p> <p>If the GVWR of the truck and load is greater than 26,000 lbs., it can operate anywhere within the state where it is registered.</p> <p>If it is heavier than 26,000 lbs., it can operate in other states but only within a 150-air mile radius from the farm or ranch.</p> <p>The driver must hold a Missouri Class E driver’s license.</p>

*Missouri Class E Driver’s License*

If a CDL is not required, then all of the farmer’s employees who drive a farm truck must have at least a Missouri Class E driver’s license.



## CDL-Required Drug and Alcohol Testing Rules

Controlled substance testing is required for most commercial motor vehicle drivers.

Drivers who do not meet the definition of a covered farm vehicle operator and who are required to have a CDL must comply with the controlled substance and alcohol testing requirements of the FMCSR, which include:

- **A pre-employment drug test** – Before operating a CMV, a driver must pass a DOT drug test. The negative drug test report must be kept in the driver's qualification file.
- **Random drug and alcohol-testing program** – All CDL-required drivers must enroll in a DOT random drug and alcohol-testing program.
- **Post-accident testing** – Drivers involved in a recordable accident must be tested for drug and alcohol use if a fatality occurs or a citation is issued.
- **Any positive tests or refusal to test** results in a driver's disqualification from driving a CMV. Drivers must complete return-to-duty testing and follow-up testing to be re-qualified to drive.

These are just some of the basic requirements. More information is available on the FMCSA and MoDOT Motor Carrier Services' websites: [www.fmcsa.dot.gov](http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov) and [www.modot.org/mcs](http://www.modot.org/mcs).



## Drug and Alcohol Testing Rules

Standard or Apportioned License Plated Vehicle	"F"-plated Covered Farm Vehicle
Controlled substance and alcohol testing is applicable only when the driver is required to have a CDL.	Controlled substance testing is not required for drivers of covered farm vehicles.



## Medical Certification Requirements

Normally, drivers of commercial motor vehicles must be medically certified. However, farm vehicle drivers often times are except from this requirement.

In certain cases when the driver does not operate equipment that meets the definition of a covered farm vehicle, the driver must be medically examined and certified to operate a farm CMV.

*Drivers who had a valid Missouri Chauffeur's License on May 13, 1988 and who only operate within Missouri are eligible for a grandfathered exception.*



Standard or Apportioned License Plated Vehicle	“F”-plated Covered Farm Vehicle
<p><b>Interstate Commerce</b></p> <p>Medical certification is not required for custom harvesters, bee keepers transporting live bees, or to the drivers of farm straight trucks (without trailers) owned and controlled by the farmer operating within a 150 air-mile radius of the farm transporting agricultural products, farm supplies or machinery to or from the farm.</p> <p>This exception does not apply to for-hire operation or to vehicles transporting hazardous material required to be placarded.</p> <p><b>Intrastate Commerce</b></p> <p>Missouri has adopted the exceptions noted above for interstate commerce. In addition to those exceptions the following apply:</p> <p>Medical certification is not required if the driver operates solely in intrastate commerce and had a valid Missouri chauffeur’s license on May 13, 1988.</p> <p>Medical certification is not required for drivers of vehicles operated solely in intrastate commerce with a GVWR/ GCWR of 26,000 pounds or less.</p> <p>This exception does not apply if the vehicle is used to transport any type or quantity of hazardous material.</p>	<p><b>Interstate Commerce</b></p> <p>Drivers of covered farm vehicles are not required to be medically certified under the following conditions:</p> <p>GVWR or GVW of 26,000 lbs. or less can operate anywhere in the United States.</p> <p>GVWR or GVW of 26,001 lbs. or more, drivers operating in state(s) other than their registered state are limited to 150 air mile radius from the farm or ranch.</p> <p>The vehicle cannot be used in for-hire operation.</p> <p>The exception does not apply to vehicles required to be placarded for hazardous material.</p> <p><b>Intrastate Commerce</b></p> <p>Drivers of covered farm vehicles are not required to be medically certified.</p> <p>The driver cannot transport products for-hire or transporting placardable hazardous materials.</p>

Drivers may only be exempt when operating the farm vehicle within Missouri. Adjoining states might have reciprocal agreements that allow the exemption to continue across state lines. Contact the adjoining state’s transportation agency to learn that state’s requirements.



## Record Keeping - Driver Qualifications

In general, a complete driver qualification file for each commercial motor vehicle driver, should contain the following information:

- A signed annual certification by the driver listing any traffic violations or attesting that the driver had none.
- A road test and written test or equivalent (i.e. copy of a valid CDL).
- Employment application documenting the driver's driving, work and safety history.
- Investigation and inquiries into the driving history which includes a copy of the driver's driving record.
- A note relating to the annual review of the driver's driving record.
- Medical certification card and a DOT physical form - unless the Missouri grandfather exception applies.
- Investigation and inquiries of previous employers into the driver's driving, work and safety history.
- Drug and alcohol testing results for the driver if they are required to have a CDL, including proof of:
  - A negative pre-employment test
  - Enrollment in a random testing process
  - Reasonable-suspicion training completed by the driver's supervisor
  - Written company policies, such as post-accident testing procedures



## Driver Qualifications

Standard or Apportioned License Plated Vehicle	"F"-plated Covered Farm Vehicle
<p>Farm-vehicle drivers of straight trucks operated within 150 air miles of their farm are exempt from the general federal driver qualification requirements and the driver qualification documentation file.</p> <p>Farm-vehicle drivers of combination trucks operated within 150 air miles of the farm are exempt from the driver qualification documentation file only. This means drivers must be medically-certified (DOT Medical Exam) and the owner of the farm or ranch does not need to keep a driver qualification file for each driver.</p>	<p>Covered farm vehicle drivers are exempt from the physical qualifications and examinations (DOT physical).</p> <p>All other driver qualification requirements and driver file documentation are required unless otherwise exempted due to meeting the farm vehicle driver exemptions.</p>

Note: If a farm CMV driver hauls any load that requires hazardous material placards they must comply with all state and federal safety laws, including those with more strict driver qualification requirements.



## Hours-of-Service Requirements

Generally speaking, the rules relating to hours-of-service compliance do not apply to operators of covered farm vehicles. With few exceptions, covered farm vehicle operators are not required to record the duty status of their drivers. The hours-of-service exemption applies to operators of covered farm vehicle with a GVW or GVWR of:

- 26,000 pounds or less, operated anywhere in the United States; or
- 26,001 pounds or more and operates wholly within the Missouri; or
- 26,001 pounds or more and operates across state lines but remains within a 150 air-mile radius of the operator's farm or ranch.

Missouri law allows ALL carriers - including operators of covered farm vehicles - who transport agricultural commodities during Missouri's planting and harvesting season (defined as January 1 to December 31) to be exempt from hours-of-service rules. This exemption applies to for-hire operations, vehicles transporting placarded amounts of hazardous materials and non-farm plated vehicles as long as they meet the following conditions:

- The operator transports agricultural commodities to a location within a 150 air-mile radius.
- The operator transports farm supplies for agricultural purposes within a 150 air-mile radius from (a) a wholesale or retail distribution point to a location where the supplies will be used, and (b) a wholesale distribution point to a retail distribution point.



## Hours of Service

Standard or Apportioned License Plated Vehicle	"F"-plated Covered Farm Vehicle
<p><b>Interstate Commerce</b></p> <p>The hours of service limits are not applicable to drivers transporting agricultural commodities or farm supplies for agricultural purposes within a 150 air-mile radius of the source of the supplies or distribution point of the supplies. The transportation must take place during the planting and harvesting season.</p> <p>The planting and harvesting season in Missouri is January through December.</p> <p><b>Intrastate Commerce</b></p> <p>The hours of service limits are not applicable to drivers transporting agricultural commodities or farm supplies for agricultural purposes within a 150 air-mile radius of the source of the supplies or distribution point of the supplies.</p>	<p><b>Interstate Commerce</b></p> <p>Hours of service is not applicable to drivers of covered farm vehicles under the following conditions:</p> <p>GVWR or GVW of 26,000 lbs. or less can operate anywhere in the United States,</p> <p>GVWR or GVW &gt;26,000 lbs. operating in State(s) other than the registered State-limited to 150 air-mile radius from the farm or ranch</p> <p>The vehicle cannot be used in for-hire operation.</p> <p>The exception does not apply to vehicles required to be placarded for hazardous material.</p>
<p><b>Current Exceptions</b></p> <p>The transportation must take place during the planting and harvesting season – January 1 through December 31 in Missouri.</p> <p>The hours of service are not applicable to drivers of vehicles operated solely in intrastate commerce with a GVWR/GCWR of 26,000 pounds or less. This exception does not apply if the vehicle is used to transport any type or quantity of hazardous material.</p>	<p><b>Intrastate Commerce</b></p> <p>The hours of service regulations are not applicable to drivers of covered farm vehicles.</p> <p>GVWR or GVW &gt;26,000 lbs.-can operate anywhere within the State it is registered.</p> <p>The driver cannot transport products for-hire or transport placardable hazardous materials.</p>



## Truck Maintenance Requirements

All farm trucks must operate safely with proper equipment such as lighting, brakes, tires, load securement, steering and suspension parts. Equipment, parts and accessories must be maintained according to state and federal regulations. Certain farm vehicles may be exempted from maintenance record keeping requirements but are not exempt from maintaining equipment and ensuring it is safe to operate

### Maintenance Records and Proof of Repairs

Trucks and trailers that do not meet the definition of a covered farm vehicle or which exceed the 150 interstate air-mile radius exemption must comply with the vehicle maintenance, repair, and inspection record keeping requirements prescribed by rule. All non-exempted farm trucks and trailers operated on a public roadway must have a complete maintenance file which lists:

- A full description of each truck and trailer by make, year, VIN, truck number and tire size.
- All repairs made to each unit
- All preventative maintenance completed and a schedule of planned preventative maintenance
- A federal annual periodic inspection record that is completed following a full mechanical inspection of the equipment. Proof of successful inspection must be kept both on the vehicle and in the farmer's maintenance file.

## Safety Inspection Requirements for Drivers

Drivers of farm vehicles must complete a daily pre-trip walk around safety inspection to detect vehicle and trailer defects, load securement issues and safety equipment violations before operating. This applies to covered farm vehicles and farm vehicle drivers.

Non-excepted drivers must also complete a daily vehicle inspection post-trip report that lists defects found and repaired, once they become aware of a maintenance need.

## Vehicle Maintenance Repair and Inspection

Standard or Apportioned License Plated Vehicle	"F"-plated Covered Farm Vehicle
<p><b>Interstate Commerce</b> Vehicles with a GVWR/GCWR in excess of 10,000 pounds are required to meet all vehicle inspection, repair and maintenance regulations. All vehicles of this size are treated the same without exception for agricultural operation. Vehicle inspection includes annual DOT inspection.</p> <p><b>Intrastate Commerce</b> Vehicles with a GVWR/GCWR in excess of 26,000 pounds are required to meet all vehicle inspection, repair and maintenance regulations. All vehicles of this size are treated the same without exception for agricultural operation. Vehicles with a GVWR/GCWR in excess of 10,000 lbs. and carrying ANY amount of hazardous material are required to meet all vehicle inspection, repair and maintenance regulations.</p>	<p><b>Interstate Commerce</b> The vehicle maintenance, repair and inspection record keeping requirements are not applicable to covered farm vehicles. GVWR 26,000 lbs. or less-can operate anywhere in the United States GVWR &gt;26,000 lbs. operating in State(s) other than registered State-limited to 150 air mile radius from the farm or ranch The vehicle cannot be used in for-hire operation The exception does not apply to vehicles required to be placarded for hazardous material.</p> <p><b>Intrastate Commerce</b> GVWR &gt;26,000 lbs.-can operate anywhere within the State it is registered</p>

## Economic Regulations, Licensing and Permits

Besides safety requirements, other rules and fees can apply to farmers who operate CMVs. These include oversize/overweight permits, for-hire authority, apportioned license plates, fuel tax licenses and Unified Carrier Registration.

### Intrastate (within Missouri)

#### Oversize Loads

No oversize permits are needed in Missouri for farmers who occasionally and temporarily transport an agricultural implement a short distance or who transport hay as a farm product on a state highway. However, permits are required for all oversize loads on interstate highways.

#### Overweight Loads

Farmers who transport a load in excess of the legal weight limit must obtain an overweight permit. Fees start at \$15 with an additional \$20 for every 10,000 lbs. over the state maximum legal weight limit.

Reminder – Depending on the dimensions of the load, weather conditions and the time of day, when traveling under an Oversize or Overweight permit, visible warning signs, flags and lighting are required.

Note: Permits are allowed for non-reducible loads only.

### Oversize Overweight Restrictions

Size and weight restrictions in Missouri vary by roadway designation, commercial zone operation, and the type of vehicle. Current limits include:

#### Height Restrictions

- 14 feet – on interstate, designated and primary highways and on highways within 10 miles of an interstate or designated highway.
- 13 feet, 6 inches – on all other roadways.

#### Width Restrictions

- 8 feet, 6 inches wide

## Length Restrictions

### Straight Truck

- 45 feet – for any straight truck, including the load

### Combination Truck

- 53 feet – for the trailer and load (excluding power unit) of a tractor and semi-trailer combination vehicle on interstate and designated highways and on highways within 10 miles of an interstate or designated highway.
- 60 feet – for a tractor and semi-trailer combination vehicle on highways more than 10 miles from an interstate or designated highway.
- 65 feet – for any other combination vehicle (both power unit and load) on interstate and primary highways and on highways within 10 miles of an interstate or primary highway.
- 55 feet – for any other combination vehicle (both power unit and load) on highways more than 10 miles from an interstate or primary highway.

## Maximum Weight

Allowed weights are based on gross weight, axle weight, axle spacing and bridge weight restrictions. These limits vary. Please call 1-866-831-6277 or visit our website, [www.modot.org/mcs](http://www.modot.org/mcs) for assistance with your situation.

Livestock haulers are allowed to operate a CMV loaded to a gross weight of 85,500, statewide. Those hauling grain and grain co-products can weigh as much as ten percent more than the maximum weight limitation indicated in a weight-by-axle chart contained within the law. When traveling at heavier weights, these loads may NOT use any portion of an interstate highway.

Visit [www.modot.org/bridgelimits](http://www.modot.org/bridgelimits) to find the weight-by-axle chart and learn more about the responsibilities that coincide with the additional weight privilege.

## Maximum Size and Weight

If highways and bridges on the route can accommodate the physical width and/or height of the load, Missouri routinely permits loads up to the following measurements.

*Width:* 16 feet

*Height:* 16 feet

*Weight:* 5 axles - 104,000 lbs. (1-2-2) - at least 51 feet of axle spacing

For trucks with more than 5 axles, please contact MoDOT Motor Carrier Services for guidance.

*Length:* 150 feet overall length - 60 feet single unit

## Relaxed Restrictions in Commercial Zones

Within special geographic zones, weight and height limits are expanded. To qualify for these limits, the move must be wholly within the commercial zones. In Missouri, commercial zones include:

- Columbia
- Kansas City
- Springfield
- St. Joseph
- St. Louis

In commercial zones, which are outlined on the Missouri Vehicle Route Map, (available from MoDOT Motor Carrier Services):

- Height restriction expands to 15 feet.
- Gross weight restrictions are set at 22,400 lbs. per axle, regardless of the number of axles. There is no gross weight cap, however, vehicles that exceed 80,000 lbs. must be licensed for 80,000 lbs.

## Missouri For-Hire Hauling Certificate of Authority

If you would like to haul freight for other people, farms or companies within the state for a fee, contact MoDOT Motor Carrier Services for assistance with the following steps:

- Application for a certificate of authority. There is no cost to apply.
- Filing proof of required insurance coverage.
- Obtaining a vehicle authority sticker - \$10 per sticker when required.

## Interstate (beyond Missouri)

### Operation Beyond/Across Missouri State Lines

Any CMV that crosses state lines, including not-for-hire farm trucks, must register with the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration by phone, mail or by the Internet to obtain a USDOT number. There is no charge for this service.

### Hauling For-Hire Beyond Missouri

To obtain interstate operating authority, a carrier must apply with the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration. MoDOT Motor Carrier Services can assist you with this process. Fees start at approximately \$300.

### License Plate Requirements for Interstate Transportation

Missouri farm license plates can be used statewide only for farm business use. Otherwise, they are essentially local license plates to be used within a 50-mile radius of the farm. Adjoining states might have different rules. Farmers should check with the Missouri Department of Revenue, MoDOT Motor Carrier Services or other states' equivalent agencies for further guidance.

Farmers engaged in interstate for-hire transportation, might need to obtain an apportioned license plate.

Note: If you operate a for-hire hauling business, you do not operate under the farm exemptions from safety regulations in this booklet. No one may haul on a for-hire basis while displaying a Missouri farm "F-tabbed" license plate.

## **Fuel Tax License for Farmers**

As a farmer operating across any state lines, International Fuel Tax Agreement license requirements apply if any of these two conditions are met:

- Your truck weighs more than 26,000 lbs. (GVW or licensed weight).
- Your truck has 3 or more axles.

IFTA is a license that is required before any carrier can operate in interstate commerce. The license is free but requires reports and submission of fuel taxes. For infrequent trips out of state, a 72-hour permit may be purchased for \$10.

## **Missouri/Iowa IFTA Agreement**

An agreement between the Missouri and Iowa Departments of Transportation gives farmers who use large trucks (26,000 lbs. or more) to haul raw farm products and/or farm/ranch equipment across the state line the limited ability to do so without meeting International Fuel Tax Agreement requirements.

Normally, fuel tax reporting and an IFTA license and decal is required of any qualified motor vehicle that crosses state lines. Missouri and Iowa agree that residents of either state operating within 30 road miles of the Iowa/Missouri border are exempted from these requirements.

If travel goes beyond 30 miles of the border, all IFTA requirements apply and the 30 miles must be included in fuel tax reporting.

## **Unified Carrier Registration**

Any carrier that transports property in interstate commerce must comply with Unified Carrier Registration.

Farmers are not exempt from UCR requirements when traveling between states. Contact MoDOT Motor Carrier Services to learn more. Call 1-866-831-6277 or send an e-mail to [contactMCS@modot.mo.gov](mailto:contactMCS@modot.mo.gov).

# Contact Information and Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Agencies

The regulations and requirements in this booklet are explained in a very abbreviated manner and are only a brief overview. The complete regulations and state statutes, while complex, cover these areas in much more detail and should be read in their entirety. You can find them on the websites listed below or you can obtain a copy from, regulatory publications supplier.

If you have questions, please contact any of the following agencies:

## Missouri Department of Transportation

### Mailing Address

Motor Carrier Services  
P.O. Box 270  
Jefferson City, MO 65102

### Physical Location

830 MoDOT Drive  
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Toll Free: 1-866-831-6277

Office: (573) 751-7100

Fax: (573) 522-4260

Email: [ContactMCS@modot.mo.gov](mailto:ContactMCS@modot.mo.gov)

[www.modot.org/mcs](http://www.modot.org/mcs)

[www.facebook.com/modotmcs](https://www.facebook.com/modotmcs)

## MoDOT MCS Safety and Compliance Personnel

St. Louis Area (314) 340-4013

Central Mo. (573) 751-7117

Kansas City Area (816) 622-0041

Southwest Mo. (417) 895-6365





## **USDOT - Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration**

3219 Emerald Lane, Suite 500  
Jefferson City, MO 65109  
Office: (573) 636-3246 or 636-3870  
Information Line: 1-800-832-5660  
[www.fmcsa.dot.gov](http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov)

## **Missouri State Highway Patrol**

Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Division  
General Headquarters  
1510 E. Elm Street  
Jefferson City, MO 65102  
Office: (573) 751-4653  
MSHP Emergency 800-525-5555 or \*55 on a mobile phone  
Non-emergency (V/TDD) 573-751-3313

## **Road Condition Information**

MoDOT Traveler Information Map  
[www.modot.org](http://www.modot.org) - App available in iPhone and Android stores. Free.  
MoDOT 24-Hour Customer Service Line  
1-888 ASK MODOT (1-888-275-6636)



## Glossary

Some definitions include references to federal and state regulatory documents.

FMCSR – Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations – [www.fmcsa.dot.gov](http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov)

HMR – Hazardous Material Regulations – [www.phmsa.dot.gov](http://www.phmsa.dot.gov)

RSMo – Missouri State Statutes – <http://revisor.mo.gov/main/Home.aspx>

Air Miles – Distance measured as if travel from one point to another took place in the air rather than on a road. One air mile equals 1.1508 statute (road) miles.

Combination Truck – A truck or truck tractor connected with full or semi-trailer. The sections can be separated.

Commercial Motor Vehicle (CMV) – A truck with a gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) or gross combination weight rating (GCWR) of:

- 10,001 lbs. or greater that operates across state lines (interstate), or
- 26,001 lbs. or greater wholly within Missouri (intrastate), or
- Is between 10,000 and 26,001 lbs. or greater and carries any amount of hazardous materials within Missouri (intrastate).
- Of any size transporting hazardous materials in an amount that requires a placard.

Covered Farm Vehicle: A straight truck or articulated vehicle that is:

- Registered in a state with a license plate or other designation issued by the state of registration that allows law enforcement officials to identify it as a farm vehicle (In Missouri, an 'F' sticker on the license plate);
- Operated by the owner or operator of a farm or ranch, or an employee or family member of an owner or operator of a farm or ranch;
- Used to transport agricultural commodities, livestock, machinery or supplies to or from a farm or ranch;
- Not used in for-hire motor carrier operations;
- Not used to transport any placarded amount of hazardous materials

Meeting the requirements above, the farm operator may use the covered farm vehicle exemption as such:

- Vehicles with the greater of a gross combination weight (GCW) or gross combination weight rating (GCWR), of 26,001 pounds or less may use the exemptions anywhere in the United States; or
- Vehicle with the greater of a gross combination weight (GCW) or gross combination weight rating (GCWR), of more than 26,001 may use the exemptions anywhere in the state of registration or across state lines within 150 air miles of the farm or ranch.

**Designated Highway** – A highway specified by either federal or state authorities on which special width and length restrictions apply. To learn more, contact MoDOT Motor Carrier Services for a copy of the Missouri Vehicle Route Map.

**Farmer** – A person who operates a farm or is directly involved in the cultivation of land, crops, or livestock which are owned or under direct control of that person.

**Farm-vehicle Driver** – A person who drives a commercial motor vehicle that is controlled and operated by a farmer as a private carrier and used to transport:

- Agricultural products, or
- Farm machinery and/or farm supplies, to or from a farm; and
- Is not used in the operation of a for-hire motor carrier;
- Does not carry hazardous materials of a type or quantity that requires the commercial vehicle to bear a hazardous material placard; and
- Is used only within 150 air miles of the farmer's farm (49 CFR FMCSR Part 390).

**For-Hire Transportation** – The transportation of goods or products owned by another person for any type of compensation. Hauling of this type usually requires certain authority licenses, safety requirements and higher insurance coverage limits.

**Hazardous Material** – A substance or material determined to pose an unreasonable risk to health, safety and property when transported in commerce. Common agricultural hazardous materials are fertilizers, including but not limited to, ammonium nitrate, phosphate, nitrogen, anhydrous ammonia, lime, potash, and some fuels. (See FMCSR part 390, 49 CFR HMR Parts 107.601(b), 172.3 and 107.601.)

For CDL purposes only, certain fertilizers, including but not limited to ammonium nitrate, phosphate, nitrogen, anhydrous ammonia, lime, potash, motor fuel or special fuel are not considered hazardous materials, when transported by a farm vehicle, provided all other provisions of the definition are followed.

Therefore, a driver of a farm vehicle that has a gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) or gross combination weight rating (GCWR) of less than 26,001 pounds may transport certain hazardous material fertilizers in quantities that require display of a placard, but is not required to obtain a CDL. It does not completely exempt the farmer from the Hazardous Material Regulations. (See HMR 100-185.)

Intrastate Travel – Travel within the borders of a single state.

Interstate Travel – Travel that includes movement in two or more states.

Straight Truck – The cab and body of a straight truck share a chassis and cannot be separated. However, a straight truck pulling a trailer is a combination vehicle.



## References

The references used in this booklet are the Missouri State Statutes; the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations, title 49 CFR, parts 380-397; and Federal Hazardous Materials Regulations title 49.

You can find the regulations on the internet or may purchase a copy from any regulatory publication supplier.

Specific regulations referred to in this booklet are too numerous to mention, but the most often cited regulations referred to in this booklet are:

302.015, RSMo: Class E license requirements

301.010(25), RSMo. and 12 CSR 10-23.300: "Use of Local CMV License Plates for Farm or for Farming Transportation Operations"

49 CFR Part 395.1(k) Agriculture operations: 150 air-mile radius exceptions from hours-of-service rules.

390.030 RSMo: Exemptions from registration for for-hire authority

302.700 and 302.775 RSMo: Drivers' and Commercial Drivers' Licenses

49 CFR HMR Part 107.601(b), Part 172.3 & 107.601. Hazardous Materials Regulations

49 CFR Parts 300-399





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All information in this booklet is accurate as of its printing in February 2019.

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