

JAY JOHNSON & ASSOCIATES, LLC

COMMERCIAL VEHICLE SAFETY

COMPLIANCE BITES



November 2024 Changes to the FMCSA Clearinghouse

As November 2024 approaches, motor carrier management must prepare for important updates to the FMCSA Clearinghouse. These FMCSA November 2024 changes are aimed at enhancing road safety and ensuring compliance with federal regulations. Understanding these changes is crucial for maintaining smooth operations and avoiding potential disruptions.

Beginning November 18, 2024, State Driver Licensing Agencies (SDLAs) will be mandated to remove commercial driving privileges from drivers who are in a “prohibited” status within the FMCSA Clearinghouse. This “prohibited” status generally indicates that the driver has violated drug and alcohol regulations and has not completed the required return-to-duty (RTD) process. Consequently, the affected drivers will face a downgrade of their Commercial Driver's License (CDL) until they fulfill all necessary RTD requirements. This change emphasizes the need for stringent adherence to safety regulations and regular monitoring of driver statuses to ensure compliance.

What does this mean? This means motor carriers must now be more vigilant in monitoring their drivers' statuses in the FMCSA Clearinghouse. They can do this by ordering and reviewing Pre-employment Full Clearinghouse Queries and Annual Limited Queries. It also means carriers should be more vigilant when reviewing a driver's motor vehicle records at the regulated intervals.

In summary, the FMCSA November 2024 changes are a significant step toward promoting safer driving practices and regulatory compliance. We encourage all motor carrier management teams to review these updates and make necessary adjustments to their compliance procedures. Staying informed and proactive in addressing these changes will help prevent potential disruptions in your operations. For more information or guidance on these updates, please reach out to Jay Johnson & Associates, LLC. Our team is here to assist you in navigating these changes and ensuring your operations remain compliant and efficient.