



12/22/25

Update on Non-Domiciled CDLs

Dear Members:

As you are aware, the **California Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV)** paused the issuance and renewal of non-domiciled commercial driver's licenses (CDL) on September 29, 2025.

On December 10, 2025, CA DMV sent a [letter](#) to the **Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA)** stating the agency would resume processing non-domiciled CDLs on December 17.

Several media outlets published stories under the presumption that the DMV would resume processing CDLs without consideration of potential intervention from the federal government.

On December 16, the federal government prevented the CA DMV from resuming the issuance and renewal of non-domiciled CDLs and the **CA DMV has delayed their plan.**

The situation remains fluid and CTA will notify members of any changes as information becomes available.

Background

DMV sent approximately 17,000 letters to non-domiciled CDL holders informing them that their **CDLs will be cancelled after 60 days**. You can [click here](#) to view a sample letter and review the full details of the notice sent to affected drivers.

This is a result of an audit performed by FMCSA, which found California to be out of compliance with commercial driver licensing regulations, including issuing non-domiciled CDLs with an expiration date extending beyond the expiration date of a driver's legal presence documents.

On November 13, 2025, the United States Court of Appeals for D.C. issued a [full stay of enforcement](#) pending review of FMCSA's Interim Final Rule (IFR) regarding non-domiciled CDLs.

As a result of the stay, implementation of the IFR is paused and will remain inactive until the court publishes a decision on the merits of the case.

However, the enforcement stay will **not** affect CA DMV's notice sent to non-domiciled CDL holders as indicated by the agency. **At this time, affected non-domiciled CDL holders will still have their license cancelled at the conclusion of the 60 day period, which will be on January 6, 2026.**

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact [Nick Chiappe](#).

Thank you,
California Trucking Association