7/28/26

DMV Relaunches Medical Examiner's Certificate Electronic Transmission System on July 27

The **California Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV)** relaunched its Medical Examiner's Certificate electronic transmission system for **interstate drivers** on **Monday, July 27**.

Medically qualified **examiners** on the National Registry of Certified Medical Examiners **will be required** to **electronically submit Interstate commercial driver MERs and MECs to the DMV through the National Registry.**

Intrastate (NA) commercial drivers may still **submit their paper MER and MEC**, in person, mail or by emailing to the **DMV's Virtual Field Office**.

Medical examiners must submit examination results to the National Registry within 24 hours. The DMV must post medical examination results on the driver's record within one business day.

Under NR II:

- Medical examiners must report examination results by midnight (local time) of the calendar day following the examination, instead of every 30 days.
- Examination results and related medical qualification information for commercial learner's permit (CLP) applicants and commercial driver's license (CDL) holders must be electronically transmitted from FMCSA's National Registry to the California DMV.
- Transmitted information includes:
  - Medically qualified
  - Medically unqualified
  - Voided examinations
  - Required medical restrictions or exemptions, such as corrective lenses, hearing aids, medical exemptions, or skill performance evaluation certificates

Additional NR II Changes

Beginning July 27, 2026, the following changes will occur:

- FMCSA will electronically transmit examination results (medically qualified, medically unqualified, and voided) for CLP applicants and CDL holders from the National Registry to the DMV.
- FMCSA will electronically transmit medical variance information, including medical exemptions and Skill Performance Evaluation (SPE) certificates, to the DMV.
- The DMV will post examination results and restriction information received from FMCSA on the Commercial Driver's License Information System (CDLIS) driver motor vehicle record (MVR).
- Medical examiners will no longer be required to issue the original paper Medical Examiner's Certificate (Form MCSA-5876) to CLP applicants and CDL holders.
- CLP applicants and CDL holders will no longer be required to submit a paper Medical Examiner's Certificate (Form MCSA-5876) to the DMV.

- Motor carriers will no longer be required to verify that a Medical Examiner's Certificate was issued by a medical examiner listed on the National Registry.
- Motor carriers may no longer use the paper Medical Examiner's Certificate as proof of medical certification. Instead, they must use the CDLIS driver MVR obtained from the driver's current licensing state to verify and document medical certification status in the driver qualification file.

FMCSA issued a temporary exemption to support NRII integration

While the transition to electronic submission is ongoing, the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) issued a temporary exemption allowing interstate commercial driver's license (CDL) holders, commercial learner's permit (CLP) holders, and motor carriers to continue relying on a paper copy of the medical examiner's certificate as proof of a driver's medical certification for up to 60 days after the date the medical examiner's certificate is issued.

The exemption is in effect April 11, 2026 – October 11, 2026.

Resources to Prepare for NR II Implementation

- **Motor Carrier Fact Sheet** covers the following topics:
  - What Is National Registry II (NRII)?
  - When Is the Upcoming Compliance Date for NRII?
  - What Are the Upcoming Changes?
  - What Are the Important Facts Motor Carriers Need to Know About NRII and How to Comply?
  - Steps Drivers Should Take to Ensure Successful Transmission
  - Medical Variances
  - Ensuring Medical Certification Information Is Successfully Posted to the Driver's Motor Vehicle Record
  - Non-CDL Holders
  - Motor Carrier Requirements