

and vehicular traffic than exists on interstate highways. Faster reaction to traffic and traffic signals is generally required because distances between them are more compact. These conditions tax visual capacity and driver response just as intensely as interstate driving conditions.

The applicants in this notice have driven CMVs with their limited vision in careers ranging for 3 to 74 years. In the past 3 years, one driver was involved in a crash, and two drivers were convicted of moving violations in CMVs. All the applicants achieved a record of safety while driving with their vision impairment that demonstrates the likelihood that they have adapted their driving skills to accommodate their condition. As the applicants' ample driving histories with their vision deficiencies are good predictors of future performance, FMCSA concludes their ability to drive safely can be projected into the future.

Consequently, FMCSA finds that in each case exempting these applicants from the vision requirement in § 391.41(b)(10) is likely to achieve a level of safety equal to that existing without the exemption.

V. Conditions and Requirements

The terms and conditions of the exemption are provided to the applicants in the exemption document and includes the following: (1) Each driver must be physically examined every year (a) by an ophthalmologist or optometrist who attests that the vision in the better eye continues to meet the standard in § 391.41(b)(10) and (b) by a certified medical examiner (ME) who attests that the individual is otherwise physically qualified under § 391.41; (2) each driver must provide a copy of the ophthalmologist's or optometrist's report to the ME at the time of the annual medical examination; and (3) each driver must provide a copy of the annual medical certification to the employer for retention in the driver's qualification file, or keep a copy in his/her driver's qualification file if he/she is self-employed. The driver must also have a copy of the exemption when driving, for presentation to a duly authorized Federal, State, or local enforcement official.

VI. Preemption

During the period the exemption is in effect, no State shall enforce any law or regulation that conflicts with this exemption with respect to a person operating under the exemption.

VII. Conclusion

Based upon its evaluation of the 24 exemption applications, FMCSA exempts the following drivers from the vision requirement, § 391.41(b)(10), subject to the requirements cited above:

Robert A. Buckley (IN)
Steven L. Crews (TX)
Arthur B. Edge (GA)
Jorge Estol (FL)
William L. Fuqua (KY)
Terry G. Grice (IN)
Gerardo Hernandez (TX)
Joshua J. Hilliard (OH)
Orlando M. Hinton (NC)
Joshua M. Howe (IN)
Janessen B. Jenkins (GA)
Justin L. Knoll (MI)
Robert M. Lammon (OH)
Richard D. Lang (SD)
Larry P. Magrath (MN)
David L. Mairose (IA)
Darrell L. Marlett (IN)
Michael T. McGinty (PA)
Stephen D. Miles (OR)
Joshua D. Mylan (WA)
Albert M. Randle (TX)
Mitchell L. Reineke (NE)
Ritchy R. Richards (NM)
Antwine Simmons (GA)

In accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315(b), each exemption will be valid for 2 years from the effective date unless revoked earlier by FMCSA. The exemption will be revoked if the following occurs: (1) The person fails to comply with the terms and conditions of the exemption; (2) the exemption has resulted in a lower level of safety than was maintained prior to being granted; or (3) continuation of the exemption would not be consistent with the goals and objectives of 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315(b).

Larry W. Minor,

Associate Administrator for Policy.

[FR Doc. 2022-07108 Filed 4-4-22; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-EX-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

[Docket No. FMCSA-2012-0332; FMCSA-2013-0124; FMCSA-2013-0125; FMCSA-2017-0057; FMCSA-2017-0058; FMCSA-2020-0024]

Qualification of Drivers; Exemption Applications; Hearing

AGENCY: Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), Department of Transportation (DOT).

ACTION: Notice of renewal of exemptions; request for comments.

SUMMARY: FMCSA announces its decision to renew exemptions for 10 individuals from the hearing requirement in the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (FMCSRs) for interstate commercial motor vehicle (CMV) drivers. The exemptions enable these hard of hearing and deaf individuals to continue to operate CMVs in interstate commerce.

DATES: The exemptions are applicable on May 15, 2022. The exemptions expire on May 15, 2024. Comments must be received on or before May 5, 2022.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments identified by the Federal Docket Management System (FDMS) Docket No. FMCSA-2012-0332, Docket No. FMCSA-2013-0124, Docket No. FMCSA-2013-0125, Docket No. FMCSA-2017-0057, Docket No. FMCSA-2017-0058, or Docket No. FMCSA-2020-0024 using any of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* Go to www.regulations.gov/, insert the docket number, FMCSA-2012-0332, FMCSA-2013-0124, FMCSA-2013-0125, FMCSA-2017-0057, FMCSA-2017-0058, or FMCSA-2020-0024 in the keyword box, and click "Search." Next, sort the results by "Posted (Newer-Older)," choose the first notice listed, and click on the "Comment" button. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.

- *Mail:* Dockets Operations; U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, Washington, DC 20590-0001.

- *Hand Delivery:* West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590-0001, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., ET, Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays.

- *Fax:* (202) 493-2251.

To avoid duplication, please use only one of these four methods. See the "Public Participation" portion of the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section for instructions on submitting comments.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Christine A. Hydock, Chief, Medical Programs Division, (202) 366-4001, fmcsamedical@dot.gov, FMCSA, DOT, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Room W64-224, Washington, DC 20590-0001. Office hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., ET, Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. If you have questions regarding viewing or submitting material to the docket, contact Dockets Operations, (202) 366-9826.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**I. Public Participation****A. Submitting Comments**

If you submit a comment, please include the docket number for this notice (Docket No. FMCSA–2012–0332, Docket No. FMCSA–2013–0124, Docket No. FMCSA–2013–0125, Docket No. FMCSA–2017–0057, Docket No. FMCSA–2017–0058, or Docket No. FMCSA–2020–0024), indicate the specific section of this document to which each comment applies, and provide a reason for each suggestion or recommendation. You may submit your comments and material online or by fax, mail, or hand delivery, but please use only one of these means. FMCSA recommends that you include your name and a mailing address, an email address, or a phone number in the body of your document so that FMCSA can contact you if there are questions regarding your submission.

To submit your comment online, go to www.regulations.gov, insert the docket number, FMCSA–2012–0332, FMCSA–2013–0124, FMCSA–2013–0125, FMCSA–2017–0057, FMCSA–2017–0058, or FMCSA–2020–0024 in the keyword box, and click “Search.” Next, sort the results by “Posted (Newer-Older),” choose the first notice listed, click the “Comment” button, and type your comment into the text box on the following screen. Choose whether you are submitting your comment as an individual or on behalf of a third party and then submit.

If you submit your comments by mail or hand delivery, submit them in an unbound format, no larger than 8½ by 11 inches, suitable for copying and electronic filing. If you submit comments by mail and would like to know that they reached the facility, please enclose a stamped, self-addressed postcard or envelope.

FMCSA will consider all comments and material received during the comment period.

B. Viewing Comments

To view comments go to www.regulations.gov. Insert the docket number, FMCSA–2012–0332, FMCSA–2013–0124, FMCSA–2013–0125, FMCSA–2017–0057, FMCSA–2017–0058, or FMCSA–2020–0024 in the keyword box, and click “Search.” Next, sort the results by “Posted (Newer-Older),” choose the first notice listed, and click “Browse Comments.” If you do not have access to the internet, you may view the docket online by visiting Dockets Operations in Room W12–140 on the ground floor of the DOT West

Building, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590–0001, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., ET, Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. To be sure someone is there to help you, please call (202) 366–9317 or (202) 366–9826 before visiting Dockets Operations.

C. Privacy Act

In accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31315(b)(6), DOT solicits comments from the public on the exemption request. DOT posts these comments, without edit, including any personal information the commenter provides, to www.regulations.gov, as described in the system of records notice (DOT/ALL–14 FDMS), which can be reviewed at www.dot.gov/privacy.

II. Background

Under 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315(b), FMCSA may grant an exemption from the FMCSRs for no longer than a 5-year period if it finds such exemption would likely achieve a level of safety that is equivalent to, or greater than, the level that would be achieved absent such exemption. The statute also allows the Agency to renew exemptions at the end of the 5-year period. FMCSA grants medical exemptions from the FMCSRs for a 2-year period to align with the maximum duration of a driver’s medical certification.

The physical qualification standard for drivers regarding hearing found in 49 CFR 391.41(b)(11) states that a person is physically qualified to drive a CMV if that person first perceives a forced whispered voice in the better ear at not less than 5 feet with or without the use of a hearing aid or, if tested by use of an audiometric device, does not have an average hearing loss in the better ear greater than 40 decibels at 500 Hz, 1,000 Hz, and 2,000 Hz with or without a hearing aid when the audiometric device is calibrated to American National Standard (formerly ASA Standard) Z24.5–1951.

This standard was adopted in 1970 and was revised in 1971 to allow drivers to be qualified under this standard while wearing a hearing aid, 35 FR 6458, 6463 (Apr. 22, 1970) and 36 FR 12857 (July 3, 1971).

The 10 individuals listed in this notice have requested renewal of their exemptions from the hearing standard in § 391.41(b)(11), in accordance with FMCSA procedures. Accordingly, FMCSA has evaluated these applications for renewal on their merits and decided to extend each exemption for a renewable 2-year period.

III. Request for Comments

Interested parties or organizations possessing information that would otherwise show that any, or all, of these drivers are not currently achieving the statutory level of safety should immediately notify FMCSA. The Agency will evaluate any adverse evidence submitted and, if safety is being compromised or if continuation of the exemption would not be consistent with the goals and objectives of 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315(b), FMCSA will take immediate steps to revoke the exemption of a driver.

IV. Basis for Renewing Exemptions

In accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315(b), each of the 10 applicants has satisfied the renewal conditions for obtaining an exemption from the hearing requirement. The 10 drivers in this notice remain in good standing with the Agency. In addition, for commercial driver’s license (CDL) holders, the Commercial Driver’s License Information System and the Motor Carrier Management Information System are searched for crash and violation data. For non-CDL holders, the Agency reviews the driving records from the State Driver’s Licensing Agency. These factors provide an adequate basis for predicting each driver’s ability to continue to safely operate a CMV in interstate commerce. Therefore, FMCSA concludes that extending the exemption for each of these drivers for a period of 2 years is likely to achieve a level of safety equal to that existing without the exemption.

As of May 15, 2022, and in accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315(b), the following 10 individuals have satisfied the renewal conditions for obtaining an exemption from the hearing requirement in the FMCSRs for interstate CMV drivers:

Dustin Bemesderfer (FL)
Marquarius Boyd (MS)
Thomas Jensen (IA)
William Larson (NC)
Michael Paasch (NE)
Jesus Perez (IL)
Michael Quinonez (NM)
Jonathan Ramirez (CA)
Byron Smith (TX)
Aldale Williamson (DC)

The drivers were included in docket number FMCSA–2012–0332, FMCSA–2013–0124, FMCSA–2013–0125, FMCSA–2017–0057, FMCSA–2017–0058, or FMCSA–2020–0024. Their exemptions are applicable as of May 15, 2022 and will expire on May 15, 2024.

V. Conditions and Requirements

The exemptions are extended subject to the following conditions: (1) Each

driver must report any crashes or accidents as defined in § 390.5; and (2) report all citations and convictions for disqualifying offenses under 49 CFR 383 and 49 CFR 391 to FMCSA; and (3) each driver prohibited from operating a motorcoach or bus with passengers in interstate commerce. The driver must also have a copy of the exemption when driving, for presentation to a duly authorized Federal, State, or local enforcement official. In addition, the exemption does not exempt the individual from meeting the applicable CDL testing requirements. Each exemption will be valid for 2 years unless rescinded earlier by FMCSA. The exemption will be rescinded if: (1) The person fails to comply with the terms and conditions of the exemption; (2) the exemption has resulted in a lower level of safety than was maintained before it was granted; or (3) continuation of the exemption would not be consistent with the goals and objectives of 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315(b).

VI. Preemption

During the period the exemption is in effect, no State shall enforce any law or regulation that conflicts with this exemption with respect to a person operating under the exemption.

VII. Conclusion

Based upon its evaluation of the 10 exemption applications, FMCSA renews the exemptions of the aforementioned drivers from the hearing requirement in § 391.41 (b)(11). In accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31136(e) and 31315(b), each exemption will be valid for two years unless revoked earlier by FMCSA.

Larry W. Minor,

Associate Administrator for Policy.

[FR Doc. 2022-07109 Filed 4-4-22; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-EX-P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Maritime Administration

United States Merchant Marine Academy Advisory Council

AGENCY: Maritime Administration, Department of Transportation.

ACTION: Notice to solicit members for the United States Merchant Marine Academy Advisory Council.

SUMMARY: The Maritime Administration (MARAD) is seeking to solicit members for the United States Merchant Marine Academy Advisory Council (Council). The Council will provide advice and recommendations to the Secretary of Transportation, MARAD, and the

United States Merchant Marine Academy (Academy) on matters related to the Academy.

DATES: Applications must be received on or before 11:59 p.m. Eastern Daylight Time on May 20, 2022.

ADDRESSES: Nominations must be submitted electronically (by email) to the email address listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section. The subject line should state "USMMA Advisory Council Member Nomination."

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Jack Kammerer, Designated Federal Officer, Executive Director, Maritime Administration at Jack.Kammerer@dot.gov or 202-366-2805.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

The Council is an advisory committee established pursuant to the National Defense Authorization Act of Fiscal Year 2022, Public Law No 117-81, section 3501(c), codified at 46 U.S.C. 51323, and in accordance with the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), 5 U.S.C. App. 2. The Council, through the Maritime Administrator, will provide the Secretary with advice and recommendations on the issues identified in the National Academy of Public Administration's *Comprehensive Assessment of the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy* November 2021 report. The advice and recommendations will relate to the morale, discipline, social climate, curriculum, instruction, physical equipment, fiscal affairs, academic methods, administrative policies, infrastructure needs, and other matters relating to the Academy.

Under its charter, the Council is comprised of no fewer than 8 members, but not more than 14 members, appointed by the Secretary for terms of up to two years, and appointed from among individuals with diverse backgrounds and expertise that will allow them to contribute balanced points of view and ideas regarding improving the Academy. Appointees may include individuals who are specially qualified to represent the interests and opinions of: Academia and higher education administration; Academy graduates; Members of the armed forces; Shipping and labor; Experts in the field of sexual assault and sexual harassment prevention and response; Experts in the field of workplace diversity, equity, and inclusion; and Experts in capital improvement planning.

Council members serve without pay. Members may be entitled to reimbursement of expenses related to

per diem and travel when attending Council meetings, as authorized under 5 U.S.C. 5703 and 41 CFR part 301. The Council will meet as often as needed to fulfill its mission, but typically four times each fiscal year to address its objectives and duties. The Council will aim to meet in person at least once each fiscal year with additional meetings held via teleconference.

II. Nomination process

Members of the Council are appointed by the Secretary for two-year terms. The selection and appointment process for Council members is designed to ensure continuity of membership, and to afford the Secretary the advisory input of the most capable, diverse, and novel perspectives that the country has to offer.

Individuals interested in serving on the Council are invited to apply for consideration for appointment. There is no application form; however, applicants/nominators should submit the following information:

(1) Contact Information for the nominee, consisting of:

- a. Name
- b. Title
- c. Organization or Affiliation
- d. Address
- e. City, State, Zip Code
- f. Telephone number
- g. Email address

(2) Statement of interest limited to 250 words on why the nominee wants to serve on the Council and the unique perspectives and experiences the nominee brings to the Council;

(3) A current resume and category of interest is required;

(4) An affirmative statement that the nominee is not a Federally registered lobbyist seeking to serve on the committee in their individual capacity and the identity of the interests they intend to represent, if appointed as a member of the Council; and

(5) Optional letters of support.

All non-federal members must also complete a background investigation.

The Department of Transportation does not discriminate in employment on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, political affiliation, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, disability and genetic information, age, membership in an employee organization, or other non-merit factors. The Department strives to achieve a diverse candidate pool for all its recruitment actions.