

Military Commercial Driver's License (CDL) Testing Waiver FACT SHEET

Act 133 of 2008 and Act 131 of 2020 allows the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) to waive the Commercial Driver's License (CDL) Knowledge and/or Skills Test for Pennsylvania residents who are on active or reserve military duty or recent honorably discharged veterans. Provided those service members have at least two years of experience operating a commercial motor vehicle as part of their military job requirements. The waiver applies to CDL applicants who wish to operate vehicles similar to those they operated in the military. Therefore, those who drove combination type commercial (Class A) motor vehicles in the military will be eligible in Pennsylvania for a waiver to drive a combination type vehicle and those who drove a single motor vehicle of commercial type (Class B) in the military will be eligible in Pennsylvania for the waiver to drive that type of vehicle. Subject to the limitations and requirements of 49 CFR 383.77 (Refer to www.fmcsa.dot.gov) relating to substitute for knowledge and/or driving skills test, you must certify that you meet all the certifications required for a waiver under 49 CFR 383.77. To determine if you qualify for the Military CDL Knowledge and/or Skills Test Waiver in Pennsylvania, please read below.

- 1) **Are you currently a member of the active or reserve components of any branch or unit of the armed forces of the United States or a veteran who received an honorable discharge from any branch or unit of the armed forces of the United States within the last year?**
 - a. If **YES**, please continue to Question 2.
 - b. If **NO**, you are not eligible to apply for the Military CDL Test Waiver. Please refer to the **"How to Obtain a Pennsylvania CDL Permit"** on the reverse side.
- 2) **Do you certify that you are or were regularly employed in a position in the armed forces of the United States requiring operation of a commercial motor vehicle, and that you have legally operated, for at least two years immediately preceding application for a CDL or immediately preceding your discharge, a vehicle representative of the commercial motor vehicle you operate or expect to operate?**
 - a. If **YES**, please continue to Question 3.
 - b. If **NO**, you are not eligible to apply for the Military CDL Test Waiver at this time. Please refer to the **"How to Obtain a Pennsylvania CDL Permit"** on the reverse side.
- 3) **Can you answer no to all questions in Section B of the DL-398?**
 - a. If **YES**, please continue to Question 4.
 - b. If **NO**, you are not eligible to apply for the Military CDL Test Waiver at this time. Please refer to the **"How to Obtain a Pennsylvania CDL Permit"** on the reverse side.
- 4) **Can you answer yes to all questions in Section C of the DL-398?**
 - a. If **YES**, please continue to Question 5.
 - b. If **NO**, you are not eligible to apply for the Military CDL Test Waiver at this time. Please refer to the **"How to Obtain a Pennsylvania CDL Permit"** on the reverse side.
- 5) **Do you currently hold a Pennsylvania CDL or Non-CDL?**
 - a. If **YES**, please refer to the **"How to Obtain a Pennsylvania CDL Learner's Permit" and "Required Original Documents to Process DL-398 Military CDL Test Waiver"** on the reverse side.
 - b. If **NO**, please refer to the **"How to Transfer Your Out-of-State Driver's License to Pennsylvania"** on the reverse side.
- 6) **Do you currently hold an out-of-state driver's license that is valid or has not expired more than six months from date of application?**
 - a. If **YES**, to qualify for the Military CDL Testing Waiver, you must be a Pennsylvania resident. Please refer to the **"How to Transfer Your Out-of-State Driver's License to Pennsylvania" and "Required Original Documents to Process DL-398 Military CDL Test Waiver"** on the reverse side.
 - b. If **NO**, you may still be able to transfer your out-of-state driver's license to Pennsylvania if it is expired more than six months depending on your home state's automatic military extension/renewal policy.

How to Obtain Your CDL Learner's Permit

You must be a Pennsylvania resident to apply for a Pennsylvania CDL Learner's Permit. To apply for a CDL Learner's Permit:

- Complete the DL-31CD Form (Application for CDL Learner's Permit) and the DL-11CD Form (Self-Certification), available on PennDOT's Driver and Vehicle Services website, www.dmv.pa.gov.
- Mail your completed DL-31CD, DL-11CD Forms, and a copy of your Medical Examiner Certificate (if applicable) with appropriate fee to the Bureau of Driver Licensing, P.O. Box 68272, Harrisburg, PA 17106-8272.

OR

You may visit your local Driver License Center to apply and receive your knowledge test authorization form.

- After receipt of your knowledge test authorization, please refer to the ***"Required Original Documents to Process DL-398 Military CDL Test Waiver"*** section below.

NOTE: If your Pennsylvania Driver's License expires within the next six months, you will be required to renew your Pennsylvania CDL or Non-CDL, before your application for a CDL Learner's Permit can be processed.

Required Original Documents to Process DL-398 Military CDL Test Waiver

You must submit a completed DL-398 Form (Application for Military CDL Test Waiver), to upgrade to a CDL or upgrade your current CDL privilege. To obtain a DL-398 Form, visit PennDOT's Driver and Vehicle Services website, www.dmv.pa.gov, and select the Forms and Publications link at the top of the home page. Once you've completed the DL-398 Form, you must visit your nearest Driver License Center with your knowledge test authorization and the following **original** documents.

Required Documents

- a) Valid PA Non-CDL or CDL
- b) DD-2 (Active Duty Military ID Card) or DD-214 (within the past year of Honorable Discharge)
- c) DL-398 (Application for Military CDL Test Waiver)
- d) DL-288 (Application for Security Threat Assessment if applying for the hazardous materials endorsement)

How to Transfer Your Out-of-State Driver's License to Pennsylvania

To qualify for the Military CDL Test Waiver, you must be a Pennsylvania resident. Please visit the New Resident/Relocating Information Center on PennDOT's Driver and Vehicle Services website, www.dmv.pa.gov, and select the "Moving into Pennsylvania" link or contact PennDOT's Customer Call Center at: 717-412-5300, TTY callers - please dial 711 to reach us. You will also need to complete the DL-180R Form for Non-CDL or DL-180RCD Form for CDL transfers. These forms are available on PennDOT's Driver and Vehicle Services Web site or may be obtained by visiting your nearest Driver License Center. You must appear in person at a Driver License Center to transfer your out-of-state driver's license to Pennsylvania. If you have lost your out-of-state driver's license, you must contact your home state DMV to obtain an original Driver Abstract.