

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

Act 133 of 2008, allows the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) to waive the CDL Skills Test specified in the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (49 CFR 383.113) for Pennsylvania residents who are active duty military or recently discharged veterans with at least two years experience operating a commercial motor vehicle as part of their military job requirements. The waiver applies to CDL applicants who will be operating 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 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 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 two years?**
 - a. If **YES**, please continue to Question 2.
 - b. If **NO**, you are not eligible to apply for the Military CDL Skills Test Waiver. Please refer to the ***"How to Obtain a Pennsylvania CDL Permit"*** on the reverse side.
- 2) **Do you hold a valid Military CDL or a Military CDL that is not expired more than six months from date of application, clearly defining the types of vehicles you are authorized to drive.**
 - a. If **YES**, please continue to Question 3.
 - b. If **NO**, you may still be eligible for the CDL Skills Test Waiver by providing additional documentation as outlined in the ***"Required Original Documents"*** on the reverse side. Otherwise you are not eligible to apply for the Military CDL Skills Test Waiver. Please refer to the ***"How to Obtain a Pennsylvania CDL Permit"*** on the reverse side.
- 3) **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, a vehicle representative of the commercial motor vehicle you operate or expect to operate?**
 - a. If **YES**, please continue to Question 4.
 - b. If **NO**, you are not eligible to apply for the Military CDL Skills Test Waiver at this time. Please refer to the ***"How to Obtain a Pennsylvania CDL Permit"*** on the reverse side.
- 4) **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 Skills 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.
- 5) **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 Skills 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 Skills 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), available on PennDOT's Driver and Vehicle Services Web site, www.dmv.state.pa.us.
- Mail your completed DL-31CD Form with appropriate fee to the Bureau of Driver Licensing, P.O. Box 68272, Harrisburg, PA 17106-8272.
- When you receive the Knowledge Test Authorization Letter, you may visit your nearest Driver License Center to take the applicable knowledge tests.
- After all required knowledge testing is complete, please refer to the ***"Required Original Documents to Process DL-398 Military CDL Skills 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 Skills Test Waiver

You must submit a completed DL-398 Form (Application for Military CDL Skills 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 Web site, www.dmv.state.pa.us, 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 the following **original** documents.

Required Documents

- a) Valid PA Non-CDL or CDL
- b) Military Driver's License that clearly defines the types of vehicles you are/were authorized to drive. If not clearly defined, additional documentation is required such as:
 - 1) Verification of Military Experience and Training Document (VMET) that clearly defines the types of vehicles you are/were authorized to drive, that lists the Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR), Gross Vehicle Weight (GVW), and if the vehicle(s) are equipped with air brakes that you are/were licensed to operate in the military (this form can be obtained by military personnel only by visiting www.dmdc.osd.mil),
or:
 - 2) Documentation of the types of vehicles you operated or are/were licensed to operate in the military, that lists the Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR), Gross Vehicle Weight (GVW), and if the vehicle(s) are equipped with air brakes that you are/were licensed to operate in the military. The explanations need to be on military letterhead, signed by your Provost Marshall, Company Commander, Department Head, or OIC and section C on the DL-398 Form must be completed by your Provost Marshall, Company Commander, Department Head, or OIC.
- c) DD-2 (Active Duty Military ID Card) or DD-214 (within two years of Honorable Discharge)
- d) DL-398 (Application for Military CDL Skills Test Waiver)

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

To qualify for the Military CDL Skills Test Waiver, you must be a Pennsylvania resident. Please visit the New Resident/Relocating Information Center on PennDOT's Driver and Vehicle Services Web site, www.dmv.state.pa.us, and select the "Moving into Pennsylvania" link or contact PennDOT's Customer Call Center at; 1-800-932-4600, TDD 1-800-228-0676 (in state); or 1-717-412-5300, TDD 1-717-412-5380 (out-of-state). 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. Driver License Centers only accept check or money order for payment. If you have lost your out-of-state driver's license, you must contact your home state DMV to obtain an original Driver Abstract.