



## USA PATRIOT ACT REQUIREMENTS

Federal regulations issued by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Transportation Security Administration (TSA) in support of the USA PATRIOT Act, a Federal law, change the application process for each Commercial Driver License (CDL) holder who is renewing a hazardous materials endorsement (HAZMAT).

**The new Federal requirements** require all CDL holders who are applying for or renewing a CDL with a hazardous materials endorsement to provide proof of U.S. citizenship or proof of appropriate immigration status, complete a Federal Security Threat Assessment Application, pay additional Federal fees, have their fingerprints taken, and successfully complete a Federal criminal history background check.

If you wish to retain the hazardous materials endorsement on your CDL, you will need to:

- Pass the HAZMAT recertification knowledge test
- Provide proof of U.S. citizenship or proof of appropriate immigration status
- Complete a Federal Security Threat Assessment Application (DL-288)
- Pay \$60 in fees, which covers the Federal Security Threat Assessment fee (Federal criminal history background check) and FBI fingerprint fee. Although these are Federal fees, the check is made payable to PennDOT; PennDOT then forwards the fees to the appropriate Federal agency
- Appear at a Pennsylvania State Police location to be fingerprinted for the Federal Security Threat Assessment
- Submit a renewal application
- Pay the Pennsylvania renewal fee

**PennDOT must receive clearance from the Federal Department of Homeland Security, Transportation Security Administration before issuing you a hazardous materials endorsement.**

### **Hazardous Materials Knowledge Test**

You do not need to schedule the knowledge test at any of our Driver License Centers. When you go to the Driver License Center, you will need to present the following for testing:

- Your Hazardous Materials Recertification Test Authorization,
- Your current Pennsylvania CDL

### **When You Pass Your Knowledge Test**

After passing your knowledge test, you must **immediately** apply for your fingerprint authorization to begin the Federal application process. At that time you will need to provide to our Driver License Staff:

- Proof of Citizenship as outlined on the Hazardous Materials Endorsement Application for Security Threat Assessment Form (DL-288) (State issued birth certificate, valid U.S. passport, etc.)
- Your completed DL-288 (available at [www.dmv.state.pa.us](http://www.dmv.state.pa.us))
- A check or money order payable to "PennDOT" in the amount of \$60.
  - A Federal fee for the fingerprint check, and
  - A Federal fee for the criminal history background check.

## **Federal Security Threat Assessment**

When you receive your Fingerprint Authorization, you will also receive a listing of the Pennsylvania State Police locations where you may have your fingerprints taken to begin your Federal Security Threat Assessment. You should have your fingerprints taken within 30 days (sooner if possible). When you go to the Pennsylvania State Police fingerprint location, you will need to present the following:

- Your Fingerprint Authorization,
- Your current Pennsylvania CDL.

Your fingerprints will be forwarded to the FBI for research. The FBI will then forward your information to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Transportation Security Administration for your Security Threat Assessment to be performed. After the Federal determination has been made, both you and PennDOT will be notified of the results of your Federal Security Threat Assessment. **Please allow 90 days after you are fingerprinted for PennDOT to receive notification from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Transportation Security Administration (TSA).**

## **Renewing Your CDL**

Once you have received notification from TSA that you have successfully completed your Federal Security Threat Assessment, PennDOT will be able to renew your CDL with HAZMAT. PennDOT sends out a renewal notice about three months before your license is due to expire. **If you renew before PennDOT has received the Federal approval for you to obtain your hazmat, the hazardous materials endorsement will be dropped from your record at time of renewal.**

Once you receive notice from TSA that your Federal Security Threat Assessment has been processed, you do not need to wait for a renewal application. You may obtain an "Application for Renewal of a Commercial Driver's License" (Form DL-143CD) from our Web site at [www.dmv.state.pa.us](http://www.dmv.state.pa.us) to renew. Fees are listed on the form.

## **Dropping Your Hazardous Materials Endorsement**

If you choose to drop your hazardous materials endorsement or your CDL, you do not need to pass the knowledge test, have your fingerprints taken or complete the Federal Security Threat Assessment. If you drop any privileges, you will have to re-apply through the learner's permit process if you wish to re-obtain them at a later date.

To drop your hazardous materials endorsement and renew, just write "Drop Hazmat" on the renewal application we mail to you approximately 3 months prior to your license expiration. You may also complete an "Application for Renewal of a Commercial Driver's License" (Form DL-143CD, available online at [www.dmv.state.pa.us](http://www.dmv.state.pa.us)) and check off "Hazmat Endorsement" in the "Drop Privilege" portion of the form. Renewal fees are listed on the form. PennDOT will issue a renewed CDL without the hazardous materials endorsement.

## **More Information**

You can obtain additional information regarding the impact of the USA PATRIOT Act to Pennsylvania drivers, as well as all required PennDOT forms, at [www.dmv.state.pa.us](http://www.dmv.state.pa.us). For further information on the USA PATRIOT Act and the Federal Security Threat Assessment process, you may contact TSA by email at [patriotact@dhs.gov](mailto:patriotact@dhs.gov) or by phone at 866-289-9673.