

Commercial Drivers

Medical Reporting by Healthcare Practitioners

The *Highway Traffic Act* requires physicians, optometrists and nurse practitioners in Ontario to report to the ministry patients age 16 or over who have certain medical or visual conditions that may make it dangerous to drive. In addition, physicians, nurse practitioners, optometrists and occupational therapists have the discretion to also report patients who, in their opinion, have a condition that may make it dangerous to drive. Separate medical requirements also exist for drivers who hold a commercial licence.

Requirements for Commercial Drivers

Commercial drivers (Classes A, B, C, D, E and F) are required to submit a medical report when they apply for a licence. Commercial drivers are required to meet higher licensing standards because they drive longer hours, often in poor weather conditions, and they are subject to greater physical demands due to driving large heavy vehicles.

Medical Reports

Drivers with Class A, B, C, D, E and F licences must file additional medical reports as part of renewing their commercial driver's licence

- Every five years if they are under **46 years old**
- Every three years if they are between **46 and 64 years old**
- Annually if they are **65 years old and older**

These requirements are in keeping with the recommendations of the *Canadian Council of Motor Transport Administrators*, which are the basis of the U.S./Canadian Reciprocal Agreement for commercial drivers crossing the Canada/U.S. border.

The ministry will send drivers medical forms 90 days before the due date. This will give you enough time to schedule an appointment with your physician or nurse practitioner and return the completed form by the due date. The form will be mailed to the address showing on your driver's licence. If you move, you must update your address.

Who can complete the form?

Medical report forms can be completed by a physician or nurse practitioner licensed to practice in Ontario. If your physician/nurse practitioner has indicated "no" to questions 2 through 9 on the front of the form, take the form to your local DriveTest Centre for processing.

https://drivetest.ca/find-a-drive-test-centre/find_a_drivetest_centre.html#/locations.

If your physician/nurse practitioner has indicated "yes" to any of questions 2 through 9 on the front of the form, please send your medical form to the MTO Medical Review Section at the address noted on the form. You should also keep a copy for your records.

If the ministry does not receive your medical form by the due date, your licence will be downgraded to Class G.

Once the ministry receives and approves your medical form, your commercial licence will be reinstated.

If your commercial licence is downgraded for more than 12 months, you may need to complete driver testing before your commercial licence can be reinstated.

If your medical report indicates that you may not meet the medical standards for a commercial licence

- You may be asked to submit additional information from your physician or nurse practitioner, or
- Your commercial licence may be downgraded if your medical report confirms you do not meet national medical standards

Mandatory hearing standards

Drivers applying for Class B, C, E and F licences must be able to perceive in the better ear, with or without a hearing aid, a forced whisper at a distance of 1.5 meters or, if tested with an audiometer, must not have a hearing loss of more than 40 decibels at 500, 1000 and 2000 hertz.

Mandatory vision standards

Drivers applying for Class A, B, C, D, E and F licences must have

- A visual acuity, as measured by Snellen Rating, that is not poorer than 20/30, with both eyes open and examined together and not poorer than 20/100 in the weaker eye, with or without the aid of corrective lenses, and
- A horizontal visual field of at least 150 continuous degrees along the horizontal meridian and at least 20 continuous degrees above and below fixation, with both eyes open and examined together

For more information on the medical review process and national medical standards, please visit us at
<http://www.mto.gov.on.ca/english/safety/medical-review.shtml>