

New authority checklist

Every filing a new for-hire interstate carrier makes, in order, before the first load, with who files it and what it costs. Government and third-party fees are paid to them directly.

Apply and get the authority active

- ☐ **Apply in Motus for the USDOT number and operating authority**
Who: You, in your own Motus account, signed in with Login.gov. Cost: \$0 for the USDOT number; \$300 to FMCSA for each operating authority application. Rule: 49 CFR Part 365; 360.3T.
- ☐ **Insurance filing (BMC-91X) sent to FMCSA by your insurer**
Who: Your insurance company, through your agent; you cannot file it yourself. Cost: Your premium; the filing comes with the policy. Rule: 49 CFR 387.9; 365.109T.
- ☐ **BOC-3 filed by a blanket process agent**
Who: A blanket process agent, who files it electronically for you. Cost: \$25 to \$50, once, paid to the agent. Rule: 49 CFR Part 366; 365.109T.
- ☐ **10-day protest period; both filings in within 20 days of publication**
Who: FMCSA, with you watching the status in Motus. Cost: Nothing. Rule: 49 CFR 365.115; 365.109T; 392.9a.

Before your first load

- ☐ **Drug and alcohol program: consortium enrollment and random pool**
Who: You, with a consortium that runs the random pool. Cost: The consortium's own fee, paid to it directly; tests are extra. Rule: 49 CFR 382.115; 382.305.
- ☐ **Verified negative pre-employment drug test on every CDL driver**
Who: Every CDL driver, you included, at a collection site your program sends you to. Cost: The test fee, set by your program or the collection site. Rule: 49 CFR 382.301.
- ☐ **Clearinghouse registration, C/TPA designated, pre-employment full query**
Who: You, in FMCSA's Drug and Alcohol Clearinghouse. Cost: \$1.25 per query, bought as a query plan from FMCSA. Rule: 49 CFR 382.701; Part 382, Subpart G.
- ☐ **Driver qualification file on every driver, you included**
Who: You, as the carrier. Cost: The state's fee for each motor vehicle record. Rule: 49 CFR 391.51.
- ☐ **Periodic inspection within the last 12 months; hours-of-service records**
Who: You, with a qualified inspector for the annual inspection. Cost: The inspection fee, and an ELD subscription if you need one. Rule: 49 CFR 396.17; 395.8.

The registrations that come with running

- ☐ **UCR registered and paid at ucr.gov**
Who: You, at ucr.gov. Cost: \$55 a year for 0 to 2 vehicles for 2027 (\$46 for 2026); larger fleets by bracket. Rule: 49 CFR 367.50.
- ☐ **IFTA license and decals, IRP apportioned plates (if they apply)**
Who: You, with your base jurisdiction (in Texas, the Comptroller for IFTA and TxDMV for IRP). Cost: Set by your base jurisdiction; IRP fees follow the miles and weights you declare. Rule: IFTA Articles of Agreement R245, R305; IRP.
- ☐ **Form 2290 heavy vehicle use tax, for 55,000 pounds and up**
Who: You, with the IRS; e-filing returns the stamped Schedule 1 fastest. Cost: The heavy vehicle use tax, from the IRS table by taxable gross weight. Rule: IRS Form 2290 instructions.
- ☐ **MCS-150 record checked; the biennial update on your schedule**
Who: You, in Motus. Cost: \$0 to file. Rule: 49 CFR 390.19T.

Inside your first year

- ☐ **New entrant safety audit, expected within your first 12 months**
Who: A certified safety auditor, reviewing your records. Cost: Nothing to FMCSA. Rule: 49 CFR 385.307; 385.321(b).

The New Authority Starter sets up the BOC-3, UCR, MCS-150 review, Clearinghouse registration, consortium enrollment and a twelve-month calendar for \$199 once, included on the annual plan.