

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) Update:

FMCSA Clearinghouse

The FMCSA Clearinghouse was recently developed and it's use became effective on January 6, 2020. The clearinghouse is a secure on-line database designed to provide employers, FMCSA, State agencies, and State Law enforcement agencies with real-time substance abuse and alcohol violation information on Commercial Drivers License (CDL) operators and Commercial License Permit (CLP) holders.

Registration for the Clearinghouse opened during the fall of 2019, and all contractors that have CDL drivers should have been registered with the clearinghouse as of January 6, 2020.

CDL drivers also need to register to provide electronic consent. They then can review their clearinghouse record and identify a substance abuse professional if necessary.

Employers are then required to run queries on all prospective employees and annually thereafter. The query will identify positive results for drug and alcohol tests and test refusals. It will also identify whether a prospective employee has completed the return-to-duty process and the follow-up testing associated with a positive test. For each query that is performed, the potential employee must provide consent electronically for a limited and full query.

For additional information on the FMCSA clearinghouse, please click on the following links. Videos and webinars are available on the sites.

https://clearinghouse.fmcsa.dot.gov/ - main page and video

https://clearinghouse.fmcsa.dot.gov/Learn - learning center & videos

https://clearinghouse.fmcsa.dot.gov/FAQ - FAQ

https://clearinghouse.fmcsa.dot.gov/Resource/Index/Employer-Brochure - employer brochure

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