

# Highway Safety for Missouri Farm Trucks

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Missouri Department of Transportation  
Motor Carrier Services



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*MoDOT's mission is to provide a world-class transportation experience that delights our customers and promotes a prosperous Missouri.*

## Overview

As a farmer operating a large truck, for example, a semi and trailer or a dump truck to haul farm equipment, supplies or produce to and from market on Missouri highways, you might not be aware you are subject to some commercial vehicle safety and regulatory rules. Even driving around town or on the roadways near your farm makes your large farm truck and driver subject to federal and state commercial vehicle laws. If you cross the state line, even more laws apply.

This booklet is intended to help you be aware of the most common federal and state regulation requirements. Working together, farmers and MoDOT can help prevent crashes and improve highway safety.

*Farmers who operate commercial vehicles in Missouri or across state lines in the course of their farming operation are subject to federal and state safety regulations.*

### History

Federal commercial vehicle rules originated when the Interstate Commerce Commission was established in 1939. Some form of regulation has applied to the interstate operation of trucks since then. Missouri adopted the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (FMCSR) in whole and applied them to commercial drivers operating within Missouri on May 13, 1988. These rules apply to everyone who operates a commercial vehicle in Missouri.

### Owner-Operator Compliance Requirements

All commercial vehicle owners and operators must comply with applicable rules. Farm owners are responsible for their driver's compliance with regulations and must maintain required records at their farm business office.



# Rule Exemptions for Farmers

## Drivers

Farm employees must have a Class E (For-Hire) Missouri driver's license or a Commercial Drivers License. If a CDL is required (see CDL requirements on page 6), then federal drug and alcohol testing requirements must also be met.

Drivers must be at least 18 years old (21 if driving across state lines), speak English and be physically capable of safely operating a truck. All trucks must be correctly licensed, operated with required equipment and comply with state traffic laws.

## Straight Trucks Only

Straight trucks are single cab and body vehicles. Both sections of the truck share the same chassis.

Farm drivers of straight trucks who drive only within 150 air miles of their farm are exempt from the federal motor carrier safety regulations (FMCSR) regarding general driver requirements and driver qualification files, including DOT medical certification. Drivers must obey applicable state laws regarding age and licensing.

## Combination Trucks Only

Combination trucks consist of a truck tractor and a full or semi-trailer. The sections can be separated.

Farm drivers of combination semi-trucks who drive only within 150 air miles of their farm are exempt from FMCSR driver qualification file requirements only.

The driver must meet general requirements in regard to age, English proficiency, experience and must have had training sufficient to drive and secure cargo. They must also be medically qualified, examined and certified by a physician who performs a DOT physical. However, while drivers must carry a DOT medical card when operating, vehicle owners do not have to keep DOT physical documentation in the driver's qualification file.

## Both Combination and Straight Trucks

Farm drivers of trucks that operate within 150 air-miles of their farm, wholly within Missouri, and who are not hauling for-hire or placarded hazardous materials, are exempt from CDL and drug and alcohol testing requirements.

## Farmers and Agri-Business Operations

Farm drivers who operate trucks within 100 air miles of the commodity source or the distribution point for farm supplies are exempt from federal hours-of-service rules.

*Note:* Crossing state lines may require full compliance with hours-of-service rules, depending on the adjoining state's regulations. Please consult the adjoining state's transportation agency.

## Missouri Farm License Plate Exemptions

Trucks licensed for 42,000 pounds or less and marked for farm use with an "F" tab on the license plate are exempt from most of the federal motor carrier safety regulations when operating within Missouri in farm commerce. This exception does not apply when the truck transports any hazardous materials (including some fertilizers).

The Missouri "F" plate exclusion generally exempts those vehicles from the following:

- driver qualifications and driver file rule,
- medical qualification and certification card requirement,
- hours-of-service rules,
- driving and parking rules, and
- maintenance file and federal vehicle inspection requirements.

These exemptions apply statewide. They do not extend outside of Missouri.

*Note:* Any items classified as hazardous materials carried on the truck, including some fertilizers, cancel the Missouri farm license plate exemption. However, exemptions for the farm driver may still apply.



# Farm Trucks as Commercial Motor Vehicles

Farm trucks are considered commercial motor vehicles (CMV) and are subject to Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations if they meet or exceed certain weight ratings.

A truck is considered a CMV if it has a gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) or gross combination weight rating (GCWR) of;

- 10,001 lbs or more and is operated across state lines (interstate), or
- 26,001 lbs or more and is operated wholly within Missouri (intrastate), or
- Is between 10,000 and 26,001 lbs. and carries any amount of hazardous materials. At this weight rating in Missouri, a truck that carries any hazardous materials intrastate is considered a CMV and is subject to federal and state safety regulations.

A farm truck is also a CMV if it is used in any type of private or for-hire business or enterprise, other than personal use.

## Marking of Farm Trucks

Regulations require that all CMVs must be marked with at least:

- The operating business or farm name and,
- The location (city and state) of the business or farm,
- The word "local" if the truck bears a local license plate, and
- A USDOT number on both sides of the truck if the CMV crosses state lines.

## Insurance Requirements for Farm Trucks

All Missouri vehicle owners must carry at least liability insurance coverage on their vehicles. Higher public liability insurance may be required if you carry bulk or placarded hazardous materials or operate for-hire. Call Motor Carrier Services at 1-866-831-6277 if you have questions about insurance requirements.

## Accidents

Any crash involving an injury, fatality or damage to property of another person must be reported to law enforcement as soon as possible. Generally, farmers must keep an accident register for these types of crashes.

## Safe Operation

Farmers are responsible for the actions of all drivers of the trucks under their control. Commercial vehicles must be operated safely and according to state and federal rules, which include:

- Drivers are not allowed to operate a truck if they are too ill, fatigued or are under the influence of prescription drugs, where these conditions would impair their ability to operate the truck safely.
- Alcohol or Illegal drugs are not to be in the driver's possession. No alcohol can be consumed within four hours of driving.
- All trucks must follow railroad crossing safety requirements by stopping if required, not shifting gears on the tracks and by looking both ways before crossing.
- All equipment or goods carried on the truck and/or trailer must be properly loaded and secured.
- Seat belts must be worn at all times when the truck is operating.
- Radar detectors are prohibited in CMVs.
- Warning devices such as triangles, road flares and hazard flashers must be used when a CMV parks on the side of a roadway.

## Minimum Age for Farm Truck Drivers

Drivers of a commercial vehicle within Missouri must be at least 18 years old.

Drivers must be at least 21 years old if:

- The load contains any amount of hazardous materials, including some fertilizers, or
- The truck operates beyond Missouri state lines.



# Farm Truck Driver Rules

## Driver Qualifications

Anyone who operates a commercial vehicle is considered a driver even if they are unpaid or own the vehicle. All drivers must meet age requirements, speak English, have a valid operating license, be physically capable of operating a truck and follow all applicable state laws.

## CDL Requirements for Farm Trucks

A Commercial Drivers License is required if;

- The truck exceeds a 26,000 lbs gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR), or
- A combination vehicle with a gross combination weight rating (GCWR) is greater than 26,000 lbs., and the trailer exceeds 10,000 lbs GVWR, or
- The load must be placarded for hazardous materials.

No CDL is required if **all** of the following conditions are met:

1. A farmer transports their own agricultural products, farm machinery, farm supplies to or from their farm. (If the goods are not for farm use or belong to someone other than the farmer, a CDL is required), and
2. The move is within 150 miles of the farmer's farm, and within Missouri, and
3. The driver is a farmer, family member of the farmer or an employee of the farm, operating a CMV for farm use, and
4. The load does not have to be placarded for hazardous materials.
5. Some moves between Missouri and some bordering states. (See page 22).

## Missouri Class E Driver's License

If a CDL is not required, then all of the farmer's employees who drive a farm truck must have at least a Missouri Class E driver's license.

## CDL-Required Drug and Alcohol Testing Rules

Drivers who are required to have a CDL must also comply with the drug and alcohol testing requirements of the FMCSR, which include:

- **A pre-employment drug test.** Before operating a CMV, drivers must pass a DOT drug test. The negative drug test report must be kept in the driver's qualification file.
- **Random drug and alcohol-testing program** – All CDL-required drivers must enroll in a DOT random drug and alcohol-testing program.
- **Post-accident testing** – Drivers involved in a recordable accident must be tested for drug and alcohol use if a fatality occurs or a citation is issued.
- **Any positive tests or refusal to test** results in a driver's disqualification from driving a CMV. Drivers must complete return-to-duty testing and follow-up testing to be re-qualified to drive.

These are just some of the basic requirements. More is required of those who must hold a CDL. information is available on the FMCSA and MoDOT Motor Carrier Services' websites – [www.fmcsa.dot.gov](http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov) and [www.modot.org/mcs](http://www.modot.org/mcs) or by contacting MoDOT MCS toll-free at 1-866-831-6277.

## Missouri Farm License Plate Exemptions

To be exempt from the general safety regulations (FMCSR Parts 390-397), when operating in Missouri, trucks must:

- have Missouri farm license plates designated for farm use – “F” tabs
- be licensed for 42,000 pounds or less
- not carry any hazardous materials,
- operate within Missouri for farm commerce only.

Farm truck drivers must have at least a Missouri class E driver’s license or a CDL, be at least 18 years old, and comply with Missouri state traffic laws.

The vehicle may only transport property to or from a farm owned or operated by the farmer and the property transported to the farm is only for use in the operation of the farm. Farmers using a license plate with a farm tab may not make a for-hire haul. If they accept payment for hauling, most federal safety regulations apply to the move.

*Note: The Missouri “F” tab license plate exemption exists only within Missouri. The exemptions do not extend into other states.*

## Medical Certification Requirements

In certain cases, drivers must be medically examined and certified to operate a farm CMV. They must maintain records of these qualifications by carrying a DOT medical certification card while operating the farm truck.

There are three exceptions from this requirement:

- Drivers who had a valid Missouri Chauffeur’s License on May 13, 1988 and who operate only within Missouri are eligible for a grandfather exception. These drivers have a “K” restriction on their drivers license, which means the driver is authorized just as they would be with a CDL but only for travel within Missouri.
- Farm-vehicle drivers of straight trucks operated only within 150 air miles of the farm are exempt.
- Trucks with Missouri farm license plates designated for farm use by the “F” tab, and licensed for 42,000 pounds or less, when not carrying any

hazardous materials, are exempt from the general safety regulations (FMCSR Parts 390-397) statewide, which include the medical examination and certification requirement when operating in Missouri intrastate farm commerce only.

*Drivers who had a valid Missouri Chauffeur's License on May 13, 1988 and who only operate within Missouri are eligible for a grandfather exception.*

## **Record Keeping - Driver Qualifications**

Requirements vary because exemptions might apply, but in general, a complete driver qualification file for each farm CMV driver, including the farmer should contain the following information:

- Signed yearly certification by the driver listing any traffic violations or attesting that the driver had none.
- A road test and written test or equivalent (i.e. copy of a valid CDL).
- Employment application documenting the driver's driving, work and safety history.
- Investigation and inquiries into the driving history which includes a copy of the driver's driving record.
- Medical certification card and a DOT physical form - unless the Missouri grandfather exception applies.
- Investigation and inquiries of previous employers into the driver's driving, work and safety history.
- Drug and alcohol testing results for the driver if they are required to have a CDL, including proof of:
  - ◆ A negative pre-employment test
  - ◆ Enrollment in a random testing process
  - ◆ Reasonable-suspicion training completed by the driver's supervisor
  - ◆ Written company policies, such as post-accident testing procedures

A driver qualification file for each driver must kept by the farm business owner.

Again, trucks with Missouri farm license plates designated with the "F" tab, licensed for 42,000 pounds or less and which carry no hazardous materials are exempt from the general safety regulations statewide, including the driver qualification file, when operating within Missouri in farm commerce only.

If the driver is required to have a CDL, they are not exempt from drug and alcohol testing laws. (See page 6 for CDL requirements.)

# Driver Qualification Exemptions for Farmers

## Federal Exemptions

1. Farm-vehicle drivers of **straight trucks** operated within 150 air miles of their farm are exempt from the general federal driver qualification requirements and the driver qualification documentation file.

The driver must meet age requirements, communicate in English and have either a Missouri class E driver's license or a CDL. (See page 6 for CDL requirements).

2. Farm-vehicle drivers of **combination trucks** operated within 150 air miles of the farm are exempt from the driver qualification documentation file only. They must meet the same licensing and age requirements as a straight truck driver and must communicate in English.

Combination truck drivers must also pass a DOT physical and carry a medical certification card with them while operating the farm truck.

## Missouri State Exemptions

Exceptions from DOT physical certification requirements:

- Trucks operating under compliance with the Missouri "F" farm plate exemption are not required to fulfill the DOT physical certification and driver qualification requirements when operating within Missouri in farm commerce only.
- Drivers who meet the Missouri license grandfather exception from the DOT physical (see page 8) have a "K" restriction on their drivers license which means the driver is authorized just as they would be with a CDL, but only for travel within Missouri.

Farm-vehicle drivers are exempt from the CDL license requirement and controlled substance and alcohol testing requirements of the FMCSR when:

- ♦ Transporting the farmer's own agricultural products, machinery or farm supplies as a private carrier to or from the farm, and
- ♦ Operating within 150 air-miles of the farmer's farm, and
- ♦ The driver is the farmer, a family member, or an employee of the farm, operating a farm vehicle, and
- ♦ The load does not need to be placarded under the Hazardous Materials Transportation Act.
- ♦ They are not operating for hire as a common or contract carrier.

Drivers may only be exempt when operating the farm vehicle within Missouri. Adjoining states might have reciprocal agreements that allow the exemption to continue across state lines - see page 22 for information on CDL agreements. Contact the adjoining state's transportation agency to learn that state's requirements.

*Note:* If a farm CMV driver hauls any load that requires hazardous material placards they must comply with all state and federal safety laws, including those with more strict driver qualification requirements.



# Hours-of-Service Requirements

Hours-of-service rules help ensure CMV drivers are well-rested. All CMV drivers must obey the following:

- Take a mandatory off-duty rest time of at least 10 hours
- Limit the maximum daily commercial vehicle driving time to 11 hours total
- A driver may no longer drive if they have been on duty 14 hours without a 10-hour rest period
- Drivers cannot operate a CMV after 60 hours total on-duty in any seven day period
- Drivers cannot operate a CMV after 70 hours total on-duty in any eight day period
- Logbooks or time records must be maintained to document working, driving and off-duty hours

**Farmers are allowed two exemptions from hours-of-service requirements:**

- Agricultural CMVs operating within 100 air miles from the farm or distribution point for the farm supplies, within Missouri are exempt.
- Trucks operating under compliance with the Missouri "F" farm plate exemption (see page 3) are exempt from the hours-of-service regulations statewide when operating a vehicle licensed for less than 42,000 pounds within Missouri in farm commerce only.

*Note:* Crossing state lines may require full compliance with hours-of-service requirements, as well as many other commercial vehicle regulations.

## Hours-of-Service Logbooks or Time Records for Farm Truck Drivers

Generally all working hours, driving hours and off-duty time must be documented by either using a logbook or time record. These must be kept showing all driving time, all working time and off-duty time. A current logbook, with the past seven days' records must be kept in the truck when it is operated beyond the 100 air-mile radius. Time records may be kept instead of logbooks when the CMV operates within a 100 air-mile radius of the farm.

Two exemptions are allowed for farmers from these requirements:

- Agricultural operations operating within 100 air miles from the farm or distribution point for the farm supplies, within Missouri.
- Trucks operating under compliance with the Missouri "F" farm plate exemption are exempt from the hours-of-service regulations statewide when operating within Missouri in farm commerce only.

# Truck Maintenance Requirements

## Equipment and Maintenance Rules for Farm Trucks

All farm trucks must be operated safely with proper equipment such as lighting, brakes, tires, load securement, steering and suspension parts. Equipment, parts and accessories must be maintained according to state and federal regulations. Required inspections, repairs and maintenance must be documented.

## Maintenance Records and Proof of Repairs

All farm trucks and trailers operated on a public roadway must have a complete maintenance file which lists:

- A full description of each truck and trailer by make, year, VIN, truck number and company vehicle number, if used.
- All repairs made to each unit
- All preventative maintenance completed and a schedule of planned preventative maintenance
- A federal annual periodic inspection record that is completed following a full mechanical inspection of the equipment. Proof of successful inspection must be kept both on the vehicle and in the farmer's maintenance file.

*Note:* Trucks operating under compliance with the Missouri "F" farm plate exemption are exempt from federal maintenance regulations when operating within Missouri in farm commerce only. (See page 3 for exemption details.)

## Safety Inspection Requirements for Drivers

All drivers are required to complete a daily pre-trip "walk around" safety inspection of the CMV to detect vehicle and trailer defects, load securement problems and safety equipment violations before operating it on any roadway.

Drivers must also complete a daily vehicle inspection post-trip report that lists defects found and repaired, or note that the vehicle has none, for each day the truck is operated on the roadways.

Exemptions from this driver daily vehicle inspection report requirement include:

- Any farm which operates only one CMV.
- Trucks operating under compliance with the Missouri "F" farm plate exemption are exempt from federal maintenance regulations when operating within Missouri in farm commerce only.

Missouri state vehicle and traffic regulations still apply.

# Economic Regulations, Licensing and Permits

Besides safety requirements, other rules and fees can apply to farmers who operate CMVs. These include oversize/overweight permits, for-hire authority, apportioned license plates, fuel tax licenses and Unified Carrier Registration.

## Intrastate (within Missouri)

### Oversize Loads

No oversize permits are needed in Missouri for farmers who occasionally and temporarily transport an agricultural implement a short distance or who transport hay as a farm product on a state highway. However, permits are required for all oversize loads on interstate highways.

### Overweight Loads

Farmers who transport a load in excess of the legal weight limit must obtain an overweight permit. Fees start at \$15 with an additional \$20 for every 10,000 lbs. over the state maximum legal weight limit.

**Reminders** – Depending on the dimensions of the load, weather conditions and the time of day, when traveling under an OS or OW permit, visible warning signs, flags and lighting are required.

Note: Permits are allowed for non-reducible loads only.

## Oversize Overweight Restrictions

Size and weight restrictions in Missouri vary by roadway designation, commercial zone operation, and the type of vehicle. Current limits include:

### Height Restrictions

- 14 feet – on interstate, designated and primary highways and on highways within 10 miles of an interstate or designated highway.
- 13 feet, 6 inches – on all other roadways.

### Width Restrictions

- 8 feet, 6 inches wide

## Length Restrictions

### Straight Truck

- 45 feet – for any straight truck, including the load

### Combination Truck

- 53 feet – for the trailer and load (excluding power unit) of a tractor and semi-trailer combination vehicle on interstate and designated highways and on highways within 10 miles of an interstate or designated highway.
- 60 feet – for a tractor and semi-trailer combination vehicle on highways more than 10 miles from an interstate or designated highway.
- 65 feet – for any other combination vehicle (both power unit and load) on interstate and primary highways and on highways within 10 miles of an interstate or primary highway.
- 55 feet – for any other combination vehicle (both power unit and load) on highways more than 10 miles from an interstate or primary highway.

## Maximum Weight

Allowed weights are based on gross weight, axle weight, axle spacing and bridge weight restrictions. These limits vary. Please call 1-866-831-6277 or visit our Web site, [www.modot.org/mcs](http://www.modot.org/mcs) for assistance with your situation.

## Maximum Size and Weight

If highways and bridges on the route can accommodate the physical width and/or height of the load, Missouri routinely permits loads up to the following measurements.

*Width:* 16 feet

*Height:* 16 feet

*Weight:* 5 axles - 104,000 lbs. (1-2-2) - at least 51 feet of axle spacing

For trucks with more than 5 axles, please contact MoDOT Motor Carrier Services for guidance.

*Length:* 150 feet overall length - 60 feet single unit

## Relaxed Restrictions in Commercial Zones

Within special geographic zones, weight and height limits are expanded. To qualify for these limits, the move must be wholly within the commercial zones. In Missouri, commercial zones include:

- Columbia
- Kansas City
- Springfield
- St. Joseph
- St. Louis

In commercial zones, which are outlined on the Missouri Vehicle Route Map, (available from MoDOT Motor Carrier Services):

- Height restriction expands to 15 feet.
- Gross weight restrictions are set at 22,400 lbs. per axle, regardless of the number of axles. There is no gross weight cap, however, vehicles exceeding 80,000 lbs must be licensed for 80,000 lbs.

## **Missouri For-Hire Hauling Certificate of Authority**

If you would like to haul freight for other people, farms or companies within the state for a fee, contact MoDOT Motor Carrier Services for assistance with the following steps:

- Application for a certificate of authority. There is no cost to apply.
- Filing proof of required insurance coverage.
- Obtaining a vehicle authority sticker. The cost is \$10 per sticker.

*Note: If you operate a for-hire hauling business, you are not eligible for the exemptions from safety regulations allowed farmers that are described in this booklet. No one may haul on a for-hire basis while displaying a Missouri farm "F-tabbed" license plate.*

## **Interstate (beyond Missouri)**

### **Operation Beyond/Across Missouri State Lines**

Any CMV that crosses state lines, including not-for-hire farm trucks, must register with the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration by phone, mail or by the Internet to obtain a USDOT number. There is no charge for this service.

### **Hauling For-Hire Beyond Missouri**

To obtain interstate operating authority, a carrier must apply with the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration. MoDOT Motor Carrier Services can assist you with this process. Fees start at approximately \$300.

*Note: If you operate a for-hire hauling business, you do not operate under the farm exemptions from safety regulations in this booklet. No one may haul on a for-hire basis while displaying a Missouri farm "F-tabbed" license plate.*

### **License Plate Requirements for Interstate Transportation**

Missouri farm license plates can be used statewide only for farm business use. Trucks must be licensed for the gross weight of the vehicle and any load carried or towed by the vehicle. Adjoining states have different rules. Farmers should check

with the Missouri Department of Revenue, MoDOT Motor Carrier Services or other states' equivalent agencies for further guidance.

If a farmer is engaged in interstate for-hire transportation, an apportioned license plate is generally required. Call MoDOT Motor Carrier Services for help.

*Note: If you are required to have an apportioned license plate, then you are not operating under the state's definition of a CMV-operating farmer and you are not eligible for the safety regulation exemptions listed in this book.*

## Fuel Tax License for Farmers

As a farmer operating across any state lines, International Fuel Tax Agreement license requirements apply if any of these three conditions are met:

- Your truck is over 26,000 lbs (GVW or licensed weight).
- Your truck has 3 or more axles.
- A combination vehicle with a GVW or licensed weight over 26,000 lbs.

IFTA is a license that is required before any carrier can operate in interstate commerce. The license is free but requires quarterly reports and submission of fuel taxes. For infrequent trips out of state, a 72-hour permit may be purchased for \$10.

## Unified Carrier Registration

Any carrier that transports property in interstate commerce must comply with Unified Carrier Registration.

Farmers are **not** exempt from UCR requirements when traveling between states. Contact MoDOT Motor Carrier Services to learn more. Call 1-866-831-6277 or send an e-mail to [contactMCS@modot.mo.gov](mailto:contactMCS@modot.mo.gov).



# Contact Information and Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Agencies

The regulations and requirements in this booklet are explained in a very abbreviated manner and are only a brief overview. The complete regulations and state statutes, while complex, cover these areas in much more detail and should be read in their entirety. You can find them on websites listed below or you can obtain a copy from regulatory publications supplier.

If you have questions, please contact any of the following agencies:

## **Missouri Department of Transportation Motor Carrier Services**

1320 Creek Trail Drive

Jefferson City, MO 65109

Toll Free: 1-866-831-6277

Office: (573) 751-7117 or (573) 751-7100

Fax: (573) 751-4354

*contactMCS@modot.mo.gov*

*www.modot.org/mcs*

*www.facebook.com/modotmcs*

## **MoDOT MCS Safety and Compliance Personnel**

Chesterfield (314) 340-4013

Lee's Summit (816) 622-0041

Springfield (417) 895-6365

## **USDOT - Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration**

3219 Emerald Lane, Suite 500

Jefferson City, MO 65109

Office: (573) 636-3246 or 636-3870

Information Line: 1-800-832-5660

*www.fmcsa.dot.gov*

**Missouri State Highway Patrol  
Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Division  
General Headquarters**

1510 E. Elm Street  
Jefferson City, MO 65102

Office: (573) 751-4653

MSHP Emergency

800-525-5555 or \*55 on a mobile phone

Non-emergency (V/TDD)

573-751-3313

**Road Condition Information**

MoDOT Traveler Information Map

*www.modot.org*

**MoDOT 24-Hour Customer Service Line**

1-888 ASK MODOT (1-888-275-6636)



# Glossary

Some definitions include references to federal and state regulatory documents.

**FMCSR** – Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations - [www.fmcsa.dot.gov](http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov)

**HMR** – Hazardous Material Regulations - [www.phmsa.dot.gov](http://www.phmsa.dot.gov)

**RSMo** – Revised Statutes of the State of Missouri

[www.moga.mo.gov/statutesearch](http://www.moga.mo.gov/statutesearch)

**Air Miles** Distance measured as if travel from one point to another took place in the air rather than on a road. One air mile equals 1.1508 statute (road) miles.

**Combination Truck** A truck or truck tractor connected with full or semi-trailer. The sections can be separated.

**Commercial Motor Vehicle (CMV)** A truck with a gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) or gross combination weight rating (GCWR) of;

- 10,001 lbs or greater that operates across state lines (interstate), or
- 26,001 lbs or greater wholly within Missouri (intrastate), or
- Is between 10,000 and 26,001 lbs or greater and carries any amount of hazardous materials within Missouri (intrastate).
- Is used in any type of private or for-hire business, other than personal use.

**Designated Highway** A highway specified by either federal or state authorities on which special width and length restrictions apply. To learn more, contact MoDOT Motor Carrier Services for a copy of the Missouri Vehicle Route Map.

**Farmer** A person who operates a farm or is directly involved in the cultivation of land, crops, or livestock which are owned or under direct control of that person.

**Farm Vehicle** A commercial motor vehicle controlled and operated by a farmer used exclusively for the transportation of agricultural products, farm machinery, farm supplies, or a combination of these, within 150 air miles of the farmer's farm – unless the load requires a hazardous material placard or is used in the operation of a common or contract motor carrier. (*RSMo ss 302.700 and 302.775*)

**Farm-vehicle Driver** A person who drives a commercial motor vehicle that is controlled and operated by a farmer as a private carrier and used to transport:

- Agricultural products, machinery and/or farm supplies, to or from a farm;
- Is not used in the operation of a for hire motor carrier;
- Does not carry hazardous materials of a type or quantity that requires the commercial vehicle to bear a hazardous material placard; and
- Is used only within 150 air miles of the farmer's farm.

**For-Hire Transportation** The transportation of goods or products owned by another person for any type of compensation. Hauling of this type usually requires certain authority licenses, safety requirements and higher insurance coverage limits.

**Hazardous Material** A substance or material determined to pose an unreasonable risk to health, safety and property when transported in commerce. Common agricultural Hazmat are fertilizers, including but not limited to, ammonium nitrate, phosphate, nitrogen, anhydrous ammonia, lime, potash, and some fuels. (See *FMCSR part 390, 49 CFR HMR Parts 107.601(b), 172.3 and 107.601.*)

Certain fertilizers, including but not limited to ammonium nitrate, phosphate, nitrogen, anhydrous ammonia, lime, potash, motor fuel or special fuel are not considered hazardous materials *for CDL purposes only*, when transported by a farm vehicle, provided all other provisions of the definition are followed.

Therefore, a driver of a farm vehicle that has a gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) or gross combination weight rating (GCWR) of less than 26,001 pounds may transport certain hazardous material fertilizers in quantities that require display of a placard, but is not required to obtain a CDL. It does not completely exempt the farmer from the Hazardous Material Regulations. (See *HMR 100-185.*)

**Intrastate Travel** Travel within the borders of a single state.

**Interstate Travel** Travel that includes movement in two or more states.

**Straight Truck** The cab and body of a straight truck share a chassis and cannot be separated. However, A straight truck pulling a trailer is a combination vehicle.

## References

The references used in this booklet are the Missouri State Statutes; the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations, title 49 CFR, parts 380-397; and Federal Hazardous Materials Regulations title 49.

The most often cited regulations referred to in this booklet are:

- 302.015, RSMo: Class E license requirements
- 301.010(25), RSMo. and 12 CSR 10-23.300: "Use of Local CMV License Plates for Farm or for Farming Transportation Operations"
- 49 CFR Part 395.1(k) Agriculture operations: 100 air-mile radius exceptions from hours-of-service rules.
- 390.030 RSMo: Exemptions from registration for for-hire authority
- 302.700 and 302.775 RSMo: Drivers' and Commercial Drivers' Licenses
- 49 CFR HMR Part 107.601(b), Part 172.3 & 107.601. Hazardous Materials Regulations

# Missouri/Iowa IFTA Agreement

An agreement between the Missouri and Iowa Departments of Transportation gives farmers who use large trucks (26,000 lbs or more) to haul raw farm products and/or farm/ranch equipment across the state line the limited ability to do so without meeting International Fuel Tax Agreement requirements.

Normally, fuel tax reporting and an IFTA license and decal is required of any qualified motor vehicle that crosses state lines. Missouri and Iowa agree that residents of either state operating within 30 road miles of the Iowa/Missouri border are exempted from these requirements.

If travel goes beyond 30 miles of the border, all IFTA requirements apply and the 30 miles must be included in fuel tax reporting.

## Reciprocal CDL Agreements

Individual agreements between the Missouri Department of Transportation and the DOTs in Iowa, Kansas and Nebraska give farmers who use large trucks to haul property across the state line the limited ability to do so without meeting commercial drivers license requirements.

### Missouri and Iowa

Normally, the CDL exemption granted to drivers of vehicles with a gross vehicle weight rating of 26,001 lbs. or more is limited to the farmer's home state, unless adjoining states agree to extend the privilege to each other's citizens. Because of the bi-state agreement, operators of farm vehicles licensed in either Missouri or Iowa are now exempt from the CDL requirement if the farm vehicle:

- Is used exclusively to transport agricultural products, farm machinery, and/or farm supplies to or from the farmer's farm.
- Is used within 150 air miles of the farmer's farm.
- Is properly operated as a farm vehicle under the laws of either state.
- Is controlled and operated by a farmer, the farmer's employees or farmer's family members, so long as the operator holds a valid drivers license in either state.
- Is not operated under hire, meaning the farmer does not haul someone else's property in return for payment, trade or other reimbursement.

Only the farmer's own property can be transported under the reciprocity agreement. If property is transported for hire, all applicable state and federal

motor carrier regulations apply, including the need for the driver to hold a valid CDL and to comply with registration and fuel tax agreements.

### **Missouri and Nebraska**

This agreement includes all of the conditions above, with the following additions:

- The driver must be 18 years of age or older.
- The vehicle cannot be a combination of a truck -tractor and semi-trailer.
- The vehicle cannot carry hazardous materials of a type or quantity that requires the use of a Hazmat placard.

### **Missouri and Kansas**

This agreement includes all of the conditions in the agreement with Iowa, with the following additions:

- The driver must be 18 years of age or older. If the load includes hazardous materials, the driver must be 21 years of age or older.
- The vehicle must be registered as a farm vehicle.

### **Missouri and Oklahoma**

This agreement includes all of the conditions in the agreement with Iowa with the following additions:

- The driver must be 18 years of age or older.
- The vehicle must be registered as a farm vehicle.
- The vehicle cannot carry hazardous materials of a type or quantity that requires the use of a Hazmat placard.

### **Missouri and Illinois**

This agreement includes all of the conditions in the agreement with Iowa, with the following additions:

- The vehicle must be registered as a farm vehicle.
- The vehicle cannot carry hazardous materials of a type or quantity that requires the use of a Hazmat placard.

Find electronic copies of these agreements at  
[www.modot.org/mcs/newcarrier.htm](http://www.modot.org/mcs/newcarrier.htm)

Want a quicker way to learn which laws apply to your haul?

Use the **MO Ag Carrier** online.



Visit [www.modot.org/mcs/moagcarrier](http://www.modot.org/mcs/moagcarrier), answer a handful of questions and the MAC will tell you which, if any, regulations apply to your situation.

It will save you time, money and help make Missouri highways a safer place to work.



For more information on Motor Carrier Services programs, contact us at:

**MoDOT Motor Carrier Services**  
1320 Creek Trail Drive  
Jefferson City, MO 65109

Phone: 573.751.7100  
Toll Free: 1.866.831.6277

**[www.modot.org/mcs](http://www.modot.org/mcs)**