

Motor Vehicle Division Informational Memo # 18-07

2018 Legislation – Iowa-Based Motor Carriers Commercial Driver's License Testing Authority

DATE: June 12, 2018

FROM: Sara Siedsma, Compliance Officer, MVD

TO: All Driver and Identification Services (DIS) staff, Iowa County Treasurers and County Treasurers' staff that issue driver's licenses and non-operator's identification cards.

SUBJECT

This informational memo explains legislation enacted during the 2018 legislative session regarding continuation of the authority for certain qualifying Iowa-based motor carriers to conduct commercial driver's license (CDL) skills tests.

SUMMARY

To overcome commercial driver shortages and meet ongoing demand for well-qualified commercial drivers, some Iowa-based motor carriers implemented commercial driver training programs to recruit, develop and employ new commercial drivers. In 2014, the legislature helped these carriers more quickly and effectively license and employ students in their programs by authorizing the carriers to administer the CDL skills test to their students. However, the authorization to do that was set to expire May 14, 2019. House File 2197, enacted during the 2018 legislative session removed the 2019 expiration date from Iowa law, which allows these motor carriers to continue conducting CDL skills tests for the foreseeable future. **This legislation is effective July 1, 2018.**

LINK TO LEGISLATION

2018 Iowa Acts, House File 2197:

<https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/publications/LGE/87/HF2197.pdf>

CURRENT

Under previous Iowa session law, the authorization for Iowa-based motor carriers to conduct CDL skills tests was set to expire May 14, 2019.

NEW

Under new Iowa session law, the 2019 expiration date was removed from Iowa law.

BUSINESS IMPACT

The legislation continues the current practice of allowing certain qualifying Iowa-based motor carriers to conduct CDL skills tests and does not cause any change in processes or procedures for DIS staff. We currently have two Iowa-based motor carriers approved to perform CDL skills-testing, which are CRST in Cedar Rapids and TMC in Ankeny.