

Motor Vehicle Division Informational Memo # 21-34

Minor's School License, Online CDL Renewal, and Chauffeur License Administrative Rule Updates

DATE: November 4, 2021

FROM: MVD Policy & Compliance Team

TO: All Motor Vehicle Division staff, Iowa County Treasurers and County Treasurer's staff that issue driver's licenses and non-operator's identification cards

SUBJECT

This informational memo explains updates to administrative rule chapters 761—602, Classes of Driver's Licenses; 761—604, License Examination; 761—605, License Issuance and 761—607, Commercial Driver Licensing.

SUMMARY

The updates to these rule chapters align with legislation passed during the 2021 legislative session that impact the following subject areas:

Minor's school license for farm work. The rule amendments recognize the permitted operations of a minor's school license now include driving for farm-related purposes if the licensee resides on or is employed by a farm provided the driving distance between the point of origin and destination is no greater than 50 miles. Prior to the 2021 legislation, driving for farm-related purposes was not a permitted operation of a minor's school license.

Online commercial driver's license renewal. The rule amendments align with the legislation authorizing us to renew commercial driver's licenses (CDL) electronically. Prior to the 2021 legislation, a CDL holder was prohibited from renewing their driver's license electronically. The rules for online CDL renewals are similar to the rules for online renewal of noncommercial driver's licenses but add a few additional requirements that are specific to CDLs. Specifically, a person who has a hazmat or combination tank/hazmat endorsement on their CDL or who holds a CLP will not be permitted to renew their CDL online.

Chauffeur's driver's license. The rule amendments conform with the new definition of "chauffeur" within Iowa Code section 321.1(8), which eliminated the need for anyone to obtain a class D-1 or D-2 chauffeur's license. A noncommercial class C license is now sufficient to operate CDL-exempt truck-tractor semitrailer combination vehicles for farm work and large non-commercial straight trucks (26,000 pounds GVWR or less). A person still needs a class D-3 chauffeur's license if they are operating a motor vehicle to transport 15 or fewer persons (including the driver) for wages, compensation, or hire, and do not meet one of the exemptions in Iowa Code section 321.1(8).

This memo is most applicable to staff that issue driver's licenses and assist customers with questions about driving privileges.

You may wish to review the previous informational memos (IM 21-08, IM 21-14, and IM 21-20) we issued when the 2021 legislation impacting the above-referenced subject areas became effective for more information about the background of the legislation.

For internal DOT employees, you may find IM 21-08, IM 21-14, and IM 21-20 in the W drive at:
W:\MotorVehicle\Memorandums\Legislation-driver

For County Treasurers and staff, you may find IM 21-08, IM 21-14, and IM 21-20 at the following links in the county treasurer's manual:

<https://iowadot.gov/mvd/ctmanual/memos/IM-21-08.pdf>

<https://iowadot.gov/mvd/ctmanual/memos/IM-21-14.pdf>

<https://iowadot.gov/mvd/ctmanual/memos/IM-21-20.pdf>

The administrative rule amendments are effective November 10, 2021.

LINK TO ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

<https://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/aco/arc/5942C.pdf>

CURRENT

These rule chapters did not previously incorporate the permitted operations of an MSL to include driving for farm work, did not allow online renewal of a CDL, and did not acknowledge the elimination of the Class D-1 and D-2 chauffeur's licenses.

NEW

As of November 10, 2021, the rules will align with Iowa Code and our current processes outlined in the summary above.

BUSINESS IMPACT

This directive does not significantly impact the way that MVD operates as we have already updated our processes and programming to implement the above-referenced changes.