

# New Requirement for Commercial Driver Physicals:

## National Registry of Certified Medical Examiners

Starting in May of 2014 all physicals for commercial motor vehicle drivers must be done by a medical examiner on the new National Registry. Organizations with commercial motor vehicles need to prepare for this change.

An important change will be taking effect for all organizations that use commercial motor vehicles in their operations. Typically any driver of a vehicle over 10,000 lbs. needs to have a current DOT physical on file. Effective May 21st, 2014 all DOT physicals must be completed by a nationally registered medical examiner to be valid. The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) has developed this rule to help to make the roadways safer and ensure that physicians completing DOT physicals are fully familiar with the DOT requirements. This rule will help to ensure that only those drivers who are physically qualified, as spelled out in part 391 of the regulations receive a current medical card.

Nationally certified medical examiners must completed training and testing to show their understanding of the physical

qualification requirements as well as complete periodic required refresher training every five years and pass a certification test every ten years to maintain their certification.

Any company that operates commercial motor vehicles will need to confirm that physicals are completed by a certified examiner. To find out who is certified in your area, go the national registry weblink:

[nationalregistry.fmcsa.dot.gov/NRPublicUI/home.seam](http://nationalregistry.fmcsa.dot.gov/NRPublicUI/home.seam)

Enter your city and state or zip code and select the radius you want to search (10, 25, 50, 75, 100, or 500 miles) and click search. You will then be given a list of all of the providers in the search area.



The screenshot shows the homepage of the National Registry of Certified Medical Examiners. At the top left, there is a logo for the National Registry of Certified Medical Examiners with the website URL [nationalregistry.fmcsa.dot.gov](http://nationalregistry.fmcsa.dot.gov). To the right of the logo is a group photo of diverse medical professionals. A 'Welcome' message follows, explaining the registry's purpose and providing a 'Learn More' button. Below this, there are two main sections: 'Drivers & Carriers' and 'Medical Examiners'. The 'Drivers & Carriers' section features a search form for finding a medical examiner, with fields for City, State, Zip Code, and Radius (set to 10 miles), and a 'Search' button. A map of the United States is also visible. The 'Medical Examiners' section has a list of actions: 'Register to Become Certified' (+), 'Find a Testing Organization' (+), and 'Find a Training Organization' (-). At the bottom right, there is a 'Find' button.

