

Section: 1. Issuance of Driver's License

Effective Date: 07/26/2021 **Revised Date:** 11/25/2025

Authority:

R.S. 32:408 (5) 49 CFR 383.71 (f)(2) 49 CFR 383.5 49 CFR 383.23(b)(1)

To view Louisiana Statutes: http://www.legis.state.la.us/

- Non-Domiciled Commercial Learner's Permit (CLP) or Commercial Driver's License (CDL) is a CLP or CDL issued to an individual domiciled in a foreign jurisdiction, meeting the requirements of §383.23(b)(1)¹
 - A Permanent Resident per FMCSA needs to be issued a regular CLP and CDL that does not have limited term. Contact CDL Helpdesk at 225-925-4195 to have limited term removed before issuing.
- Louisiana stopped issuing Non-Domiciled CLP and CDLs on October 2, 2025 and is not going to resume issuing Non-Domiciled CLP and CDLs.
- If a current applicant with a Non-Domiciled Louisiana CLP/CDL wants to renew or get a duplicate, OMV is no longer allowing this issuance, and the applicant must downgrade.
- If the applicant will not downgrade, then contact the CDL Helpdesk at 225-925-4195 to put a 522 violation on the record.

If Louisiana resumes issuing a Non-Domicile CLP/CDL, below is the updated regulations provided on September 29, 2025 by FMCSA.

- To be eligible for a Louisiana issued CDL, CLP requirements must be met, and the individual must have a status of H-2A, H-2B, or E-2.
 - If no longer eligible, the individual must downgrade to a Class E (operator's) or Class D (chauffer's) license.
 - If the individual does not comply with the requirements to either produce required documentation or downgrade the credential within thirty (30) days of the office visit, the CDL status will be disqualified indefinitely.
- Citizens of Canada or Mexico are ineligible for a Louisiana issued non-domiciled CLP and CDL.
- If a citizen of Canada or Mexico, individuals must obtain a CDL from Canada or Mexico, "because the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) has determined that commercial licenses issued by Canadian provinces and territories and the United Mexican States are in accordance with the standards established by the FMCSA rules".²
- Non-domiciled CLP or CDL applicants are **not** eligible for a Hazardous Materials (HAZMAT) endorsement.

General:

- A non-domiciled CLP and/or CDL may be issued from an Office of Motor Vehicles (OMV) field office **only**.
- The foreign license is not required to be surrendered to acquire a non-domiciled CLP or CDL.
- Expiration of the non-domiciled credential will be for the duration of the date indicated on the I-94 or one year, whichever is sooner.
 - The expiration date shall not exceed one year.

Required Documents:

- An unexpired foreign passport (accompanied by an approved I-94/I-94A at every issuance) documenting the most recent admittance into the United States.³
- Proof of Louisiana Residency
- Proof of Identification
- Social Security Number
- Valid Medical Examiner's Certificate, signed and dated by a medical professional indicating they are able to operate a Commercial Motor Vehicle (CMV).

Related Policies:

Section 1, Policy 1.01, Commercial Learner's Permit

Section 1, Policy 6.00, Identification Requirements

Section 1, Policy 6.02, Driver's License Issuance for Aliens Temporarily Residing in Louisiana

Section 1, Policy 41.00, Social Security Verification

References:

- 1 Electronic Code of Federal Regulations, *Definitions* (383.5), retrieved from https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=396d99847bc2ed880a3fd2de0f77d967&mc=true&node=se49.5.383_15&rgn=div8
- ² Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, May a Foreign Driver with an Employment Authorization Document Obtain a CDL to Operate a CMV in the United States (383.23), retrieved from https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-49/subtitle-B/chapter-III/subchapter-B/part-383/subpart-B/section-383.23
- ³ Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, *Driver Application and Certification Procedures* (383.71), retrieved from https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=41438e3f3bcfa7d2a660e7a8516ead52&mc=true&node=se49.5.383_171&rgn=div8.