

January 9, 2020

Stephen Laskowski  
President  
Canadian Trucking Alliance (CTA)  
555 Dixon Road  
Toronto, ON M9W 1H8

Dear Mr. Laskowski,

The Canadian Council of Motor Transport Administrators (CCMTA) wishes to inform you of changes to the medical reciprocity agreement between Canada and the US. The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) and Transport Canada exchanged letters to update the December 1998 Agreement under the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) for reciprocal recognition of medical fitness requirements for operators of Commercial Motor Vehicles (CMVs). The update relates to a September 19, 2018 FMCSA ruling that permits an individual with a stable insulin regimen and properly controlled insulin-treated diabetes mellitus to be qualified to operate a CMV in the United States, effective November 19, 2018. As a result of the exchanges letters, the reciprocity agreement was amended and supersedes the corresponding language from December 1998 that states that insulin-using diabetics from either country will not be qualified to operate in the other country.

Accordingly, the prohibition on cross-border operations for CMV drivers with 'insulin- treated diabetes mellitus' is removed effective as of September 9, 2019 between Canada and the United States. The remaining provisions of the agreement are not affected by this amendment.

In response to this change, Canadian jurisdictions are currently undertaking driver licensing system queries to identify diabetes-related code W licence holders to be able to advise them of the lifting of this prohibition. This task will take varying degrees of time to complete dependent on jurisdiction. Additionally, Canadian jurisdictions are also all at different implementation timelines issuing new CMV operator licences without the code W designation. We would encourage all Canadian CMV operators to contact their respective jurisdictions directly on the process to remove code W from their licence to allow them to operate in the United States.

Canadian jurisdictions are working diligently to implement and operationalize this important change for CMV operators in a timely manner.

Sincerely,



Allison Fradette  
President and CEO