PARKESBURG, PA 19365

Dear Customer:

We are writing to inform you about important changes to the way Medical Examiner's Certificates (MECs) will be received and processed by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT). These changes are mandated by federal regulations (Medical Examiner's Certification Integration final rule (86 FR 32643, June 22, 2021)).

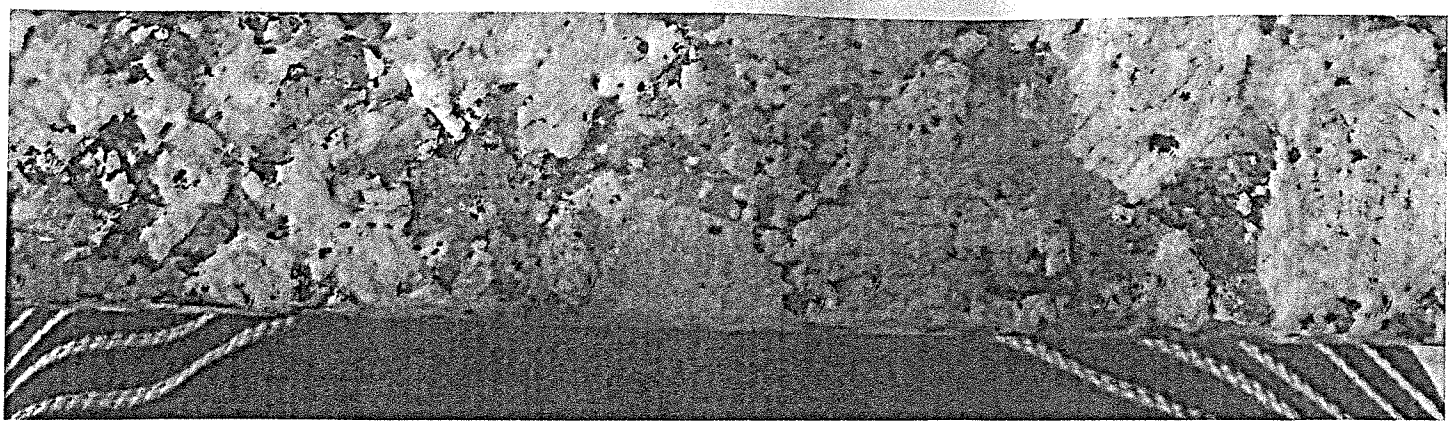
Starting June 23, 2025, the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) will electronically transmit examination results and restriction information for commercial learner's permit (CLP) or commercial driver's license (CDL) holders from the National Registry directly to PennDOT. In addition, FMCSA will electronically transmit medical variance information for all commercial motor vehicle drivers directly to PennDOT.

PennDOT is planning to begin receiving MEC and variance information electronically from FMCSA starting May 4, 2025. Making these changes early will provide CLP and CDL holders with time to become familiar with the new process.

PennDOT will continue to accept copies of paper MECs issued before June 23, 2025. After June 22, 2025, CLP and CDL holders will no longer be able to provide PennDOT with a paper copy of their MEC. Only MEC and variance information electronically transmitted by FMCSA will be accepted. Once received and processed, a receipt notice will be mailed to CLP and CDL holders.

Key Changes

1. **Electronic Submission**: FMCSA will electronically submit MEC and variance information from the National Registry directly to PennDOT.
2. **Elimination of Manual Submission Requirements**: CLP and CDL holders will no longer be required to provide a paper copy of their MEC to PennDOT.
3. **Verification Process**: PennDOT will verify the electronic submission of your MEC with the National Registry before updating your driver record.



What This Means for You

- **Streamlined Process:** This change will simplify the certification process and reduce the risk of your CDL being downgraded due to paperwork delays.
- **Timely Updates:** Your driver record will be updated more quickly once the electronic submission is received and verified.
- **Continued Reminders:** PennDOT will continue to send reminder notices approximately 90 and 30 days before your MEC or variance expires.

Important Reminders

- *Ensure your Medical Examiner is certified and listed on the FMCSA's National Registry (nationalregistry.fmcsa.dot.gov/home).*
- *Keep track of your Medical Examiner's Certificate expiration date to avoid any lapse in your CDL status.*
- *If your medical certification expires, you will have 45 days to provide a new certificate to avoid losing your commercial driving privilege.*

If you have any questions or need additional information about these changes, please contact PennDOT's Customer Care Center at 717-412-5300, Monday through Friday, between the hours of 8:00 am and 5:00 pm.

Sincerely,

Diosdado Arroyo

Diosdado Arroyo, Director
Bureau of Driver Licensing