Before you can conduct queries or report drug and alcohol program violations in the FMCSA Commercial Driver’s License Drug and Alcohol Clearinghouse, you must complete the registration process. Once registered, you can designate a consortium/third-party administrator (C/TPA) to access the Clearinghouse on your behalf.

Designating a C/TPA is a requirement for owner-operators (employers who employ themselves as CDL drivers, typically a single-driver operation). Owner-operators must designate a C/TPA before they can conduct queries or report violation information in the Clearinghouse.

The steps you will take to register as an employer in the Clearinghouse will depend on whether or not you have an FMCSA Portal account. The FMCSA Portal is a web system that allows employees of motor carriers to access FMCSA web systems.

Don’t have an FMCSA Portal account? See the instructions for employers without Portal accounts.
Employers with FMCSA Portal Accounts
If you are an employer with a USDOT Number, you should have an FMCSA Portal account. The FMCSA Portal is a web system that allows employees of motor carriers to access FMCSA web systems. **If your company has, or should have, a USDOT Number, you should request an FMCSA Portal Account prior to registering for the Clearinghouse.**

Follow these instructions to register for the Clearinghouse and use your Portal credentials to link your Clearinghouse activity to your company.

Create a Login.gov Account
Accessing the Clearinghouse requires the creation of an account with login.gov, a shared service that offers secure online access to participating government systems, including the Clearinghouse. If you do not have a login.gov account, or would like to create a new one, you will need to follow the steps below.

1. Visit [https://clearinghouse.fmcsa.dot.gov/register](https://clearinghouse.fmcsa.dot.gov/register) and click Go to login.gov.

During the login.gov registration process, after 15 minutes of inactivity, the current page will clear whatever information is entered into data fields.
On the login.gov sign in screen, click Create an account.

Or, if you already have a login.gov account, enter your credentials on this screen, click Sign In and go to step 10.

Enter your email address and click Submit. This is the email address the Clearinghouse will use to send you notifications about your Clearinghouse account. This email address will also be used to identify you in the Clearinghouse, and cannot be modified.

Check your email and open the email from no-reply@login.gov, with the subject line Confirm your email.

Click Confirm email address, or copy and paste the link into a web browser.
Create a password. This password must be at least 12 characters long. If the password you enter is not strong enough, you will not be able to continue. Enter a strong password and click **Continue**.

Select an option to secure your account and click **Continue**.

Login.gov requires the completion of a user verification process to ensure the proper person is using those credentials. Follow the instructions for the method you select.

Backup codes should only be used if none of the above methods are available to you.
Enter your security code and click **Submit**. This code will be provided via the method you selected. The screenshot below illustrates the SMS phone method.
Once you have completed setting up your first authentication method, you will be prompted to set up a second authentication method. You'll only use one authentication method to sign in, but you will need to set up two methods in case you lose access to one. Repeat steps 6 and 7 to set up your second method.

You have created your login.gov account. Click Continue to return to the Clearinghouse website and complete your Clearinghouse registration.
Register for the Clearinghouse
Once you have a login.gov account, you can complete your registration in the Clearinghouse. Follow the steps below.

Select your role (employer), and click Next.

If you are unsure if you are covered by the Clearinghouse rule, see the box labeled “Are you covered by DOT Drug and Alcohol Testing Regulations?” and click Find out.
Select **Yes I have an FMCSA Portal Account**, and click **Next**.

Enter your Portal username and password and click **Sign In**.

You will need to have the proper Portal user role before you can complete this step. Follow the instructions in the **Portal User Role Job Aid** to determine which user role you need and request that role in the Portal. If you have multiple USDOT Numbers associated with your Portal account, you will need to request a user role for each USDOT Number.
Review your contact information. You may also add an alternate phone number. Click Next.

If you need to update your personal contact information, you will need to log into your FMCSA Portal account to make any necessary changes. You will not be able to make these changes in the Clearinghouse.
If you serve as a Clearinghouse Administrator for more than one company, you will need to register each company separately. Select the company you would like to register first from the dropdown menu and click Next. If you are the Administrator for one company only, you will not see this step.

If you do not see all your companies in this dropdown menu, log in your Portal account and ensure that you have the DACH user role approved for each USDOT Number.
Review your company’s information. You will need to indicate whether you are an owner-operator (that is, an employer that employs himself or herself as a CDL driver, typically a single-driver operation). Make a selection and click **Next**.

If your company information needs to be updated, you will need to update your company’s registration with FMCSA. You will not be able to make this change in the Clearinghouse.
If you are working with a consortium/third-party administrator (C/TPA), you will need to designate your C/TPA in the Clearinghouse. This allows your C/TPA to access the Clearinghouse on your behalf. **This step is required of all owner-operators.**

Enter the name of your C/TPA in the field labeled **Who is your C/TPA?** and click on the search icon, or hit **Enter**. If you enter enough characters of the C/TPA's name, a list of options will also appear.
This will generate a list of registered C/TPAs that match your search terms. Locate your C/TPA in the list and click **Designate** on the appropriate line.

A C/TPA must be registered in the Clearinghouse before you can designate them. If you do not see your C/TPA in your search results, contact them to confirm they have completed their Clearinghouse registration.
For each C/TPA you designate, you will be prompted to authorize them to perform specific functions on your behalf. The functions available for selection are: Report Violations, Report RTD Information, and Conduct Queries. Once you have finished designating C/TPA(s) and authorizing them to perform these functions, click Next. This will send a request to the C/TPA(s) to confirm your designation.

Note to owner-operators: You must authorize at least one C/TPA to report violations and at least one C/TPA to report negative return-to-duty (RTD) information, including negative RTD test results and successful completion of RTD follow-up plans. You may authorize one C/TPA to fulfill both these functions. You may also authorize C/TPAs to conduct queries, however this action is not required to be performed by a C/TPA.
Your Clearinghouse registration is complete.

You will be directed to your Dashboard, a logged-in homepage for your Clearinghouse activity. This is where you will come to designate C/TPAs, invite and manage Clearinghouse Assistants, report drug and alcohol program violations, conduct queries, and purchase query plans.
Adding or Updating Your CDL Information

At this point, if you have a commercial driver’s license (CDL) or commercial learner’s permit (CLP), you have the option to add your CDL or CLP information to your profile. This will allow you to view your Clearinghouse record and respond to consent requests.

To add or make updates to your CDL information, under My Dashboard, click on My Profile.

Look in the upper right-hand corner of the screen for the text asking “Do you have a commercial driver’s license?” Click the CDL information hyperlink. This will pop up the screen below. Enter your CDL information and click Verify. If the Clearinghouse is not able to verify your CDL information, you will be prompted to contact your State Driver Licensing Agency.

If the CDL number has special characters (such as spaces or hyphens), try entering the number with or without those characters, as requirements vary by State.

Owner-operators will also see a prompt to add this information in the “Next Steps” box. Click the enter your CDL information hyperlink to add your CDL information.