

DRUG & ALCOHOL CLEARINGHOUSE

Check-In Webinar
March 2024



Presenters

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Clearinghouse Program
Manager,
Office of Safety, FMCSA
- Clearinghouse
Technical Team

Roll Call

- Use the chat pod to
tell us your name,
role, and State



Agenda

1

SDLA REQUIREMENTS

- Steps States can take to get ahead of the compliance date

2

DRIVER OUTREACH

- FMCSA outreach; Materials for States

3

TESTING CLEARINGHOUSE CONNECTION

- Testing protocols for connecting State IT systems to the Clearinghouse

4

STATE REPORT-OUT

- Updates on Clearinghouse-II implementation progress

5

Q&A

SDLA Requirements

Reminder: Clearinghouse-II SDLA Requirements

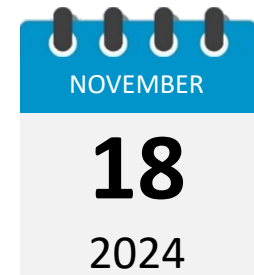
Mandatory CDL Downgrade

- Remove CLP or CDL privilege within 60 days of **being notified by FMCSA** of a driver's prohibited status in the Clearinghouse
- If **notified by FMCSA** that a driver's status changed to "not prohibited"
 - Terminate CLP/CDL privilege removal process; or
 - Reinstate the previously-removed CLP/CLP privilege
- If **notified by FMCSA** that a driver's prohibited status was due to erroneous entry, reinstate as soon as possible and expunge driving record

Non-Issuance

- **Query Clearinghouse** prior to commercial licensing transaction
- Deny commercial licensing transaction if Clearinghouse query shows driver in a prohibited status
- Commercial licensing transaction = issuing, duplicates, renewing, transferring, or upgrading a CDL or issuing, renewing, or upgrading a CLP

Beginning



SDLA Requirements FAQs - New

- **Do SDLAs need to query the Clearinghouse before issuing a duplicate CDL—for example, if a driver misplaces their license and requests a replacement?**

Yes. Issuing a duplicate is a licensing transaction that requires an SDLA to query the Clearinghouse.

CDL Downgrades: Timeline



Pre-Compliance Date

- SDLAs with legislative authority *may* begin downgrading CDLs for drivers with a “prohibited” Clearinghouse status
- Pull Prohibited Drivers Report to identify prohibited drivers
- Pull Driver Status Change Report to track reinstatements



Compliance Date (November 18, 2024)

- SDLAs *must* downgrade CDLs for drivers with a “prohibited” Clearinghouse status
- Within 60 days from FMCSA notification
- Includes all historic prohibitions (violations entered since January 6, 2020, still open) – SDLAs must pull report



Post-Compliance Date

- SDLAs must continue to downgrade CDLs for drivers with a “prohibited” Clearinghouse status
- Within 60 days from FMCSA notification
- Once State backlog is cleared, will only need to address new/current prohibitions

Recap: Get Ahead of the Compliance Date

1. Obtain legislative authority.
2. Download Prohibited Driver Report.
3. Identify your State's process for removing commercial driving privilege for drivers in "prohibited" Clearinghouse status.
4. Begin removing commercial driving privileges, starting with driver's in "prohibited" status for the longest time.
5. Download the Driver Status Change Report regularly, reinstate commercial driving privilege as needed.

FY2024 Commercial Driver's License Program
Implementation (CDLPI) NOFO:

<https://www.grants.gov/search-results-detail/352736>

Applications due by April 19, 2024.



Reminder: Obtaining Legislative Authority

- As of our Fall 2023 SDLA check-in webinars, multiple States are still awaiting approval of legislation.
- Please monitor this closely, as we have just about nine months left until the November 18, 2024, compliance date.
- States can consult the Clearinghouse-II State Requirements guide on the SDLA Resources page:
<https://clearinghouse.fmcsa.dot.gov/resource/page/sdla-resources>



Outreach Update

Outreach: Drivers

- FMCSA is focused on ensuring CDL drivers are aware of the impact of Clearinghouse-II on commercial driving privileges
- FMCSA is using similar channels to Entry-Level Driver Training outreach
 - Driving traffic to Clearinghouse website, Learning Center, FAQs
 - Email blasts
 - Social media posts
 - Paid online advertising
 - Association outreach
 - Event outreach



Outreach: Drivers (continued)

- New resources:
 - Materials from Nov 2023 webinar
 - Sample newsletter article and blurbs
 - Sample social media posts
 - Web graphics

- Also available:
 - Sample CDL downgrade language
 - Talking points
 - Clearinghouse Outreach PPT
 - Standard website language

Driver Resources

- [Sample Language for CDL Downgrade Letters \(Word\)](#): SDLAs may insert this language into the communications to drivers informing them of the loss of commercial driving privilege due to a "prohibited" status in the Clearinghouse.
- [Clearinghouse Talking Points](#): SDLAs may use these talking points when speaking with drivers about Clearinghouse-II and its implications for commercial driving privileges.
- [Clearinghouse-II Standard Website Language](#): SDLAs may use this language on their websites to educate drivers about Clearinghouse-II.
- **NEW:** [Sample Newsletter Article and Blurbs \(Word\)](#): SDLAs are encouraged to use these sample newsletter article and e-newsletter blurbs on their websites and in SDLA publications.
- **NEW:** [Sample Social Media Posts \(Word\)](#): SDLAs may post these messages to their social media channels.
- **NEW:** [Web Graphics](#): Download and use these images on SDLA websites, social media channels, e-newsletters, etc. Note: The zip file also contains horizontal (1200 x 627 px) versions of all images.



SDLA Resources

<https://clearinghouse.fmcsa.dot.gov/resource/page/sdla-resources>

Connecting to the Clearinghouse

Direct Connect and Testing Protocols

- Interconnection Security Agreement (ISA) template is available.
 - **States using Direct Connect should have a draft ISA by April 15, 2024 so it can be fully executed by May 31, 2024.**
 - To request the template, contact SDLAclearinghouse@dot.gov.
 - **NEW:** Clearinghouse Web Development Handbook v1.4 is now available.
- Details on testing are now in Clearinghouse Web Development Handbook (v.1.4).
 - Available on SDLA Resources page.
 - **States using Direct Connect should submit testing dates (both expected and completed) to FMCSA (SDLAclearinghouse@dot.gov).**

Resources for Clearinghouse Connection and Testing

- For specification for Direct Connect methods, visit <https://clearinghouse.fmcsa.dot.gov/Resource/Page/SDLA-Resources>
- For specifications on the CDLIS-based method, contact AAMVA:
 - Apti Morada (primary contact): amorada@aamva.org
 - Rajesh Dharmarajan: rdharmarajan@aamva.org



Direct Connect to the Clearinghouse

States have the option to establish a direct connection between their State IT system and the Clearinghouse. The guide below provides the information States will need to set up this connection.

- Download the [Clearinghouse Web Development Handbook v1.4](#)
- Download the [Open API Spec](#)
- View the service [Swagger UI Document](#)
- **NOW AVAILABLE:** Interconnection Security Agreement (ISA), which is required for connecting State IT systems with the Clearinghouse. To request the ISA, contact SDLAClearinghouse@dot.gov.

On July 20, 2023, FMCSA hosted a webinar to assist States in generating and using the access credentials needed to set up a direct connection to the Clearinghouse Web Service.

- Download the [SDLA Clearinghouse "Direct Connect" Webinar presentation](#)
- Read answers to questions asked during the [SDLA Clearinghouse "Direct Connect" Webinar](#)

States also have the option to use a CDLIS-based solution to establish this connection. For more information, contact amorada@aamva.org or rdharmarajan@aamva.org.

State Report-Out

Countdown to Clearinghouse-II

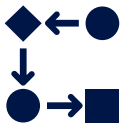
What should States do now to prepare for November 18, 2024?



Obtain legislative authority to enforce Clearinghouse regulations in your State



Select IT connectivity method(s)



Apply for CDLPI grant funding to cover system upgrades



Plan updates to office procedures and start thinking about a training plan for all staff who will implement these procedures

Q&A

- Enter your questions in the chat pod or unmute
- If we don't get to all the questions today, we will follow up with you directly



Resources

Where can I learn more about the Clearinghouse-II final rule?



■ Visit

- SDLA Resources:
<https://clearinghouse.fmcsa.dot.gov/Resource/Page/SDLA-Resources>
- Drug and Alcohol Clearinghouse:
<https://clearinghouse.fmcsa.dot.gov/>



■ Contact

- Clearinghouse Team:
SDLAclearinghouse@dot.gov
- <https://clearinghouse.fmcsa.dot.gov/Contact>