

DRUG & ALCOHOL CLEARINGHOUSE

Check-In Webinar
September 2023



Presenters

- Devin Eakes
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: FAQs

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

2

DRIVER OUTREACH

- FMCSA outreach
- Materials for States

3

STATE REPORT-OUT FOLLOW UP

- Updates on Clearinghouse-II implementation progress

4

Q&A

SDLA Requirements: FAQs

Reminder: Clearinghouse-II SDLA Requirements

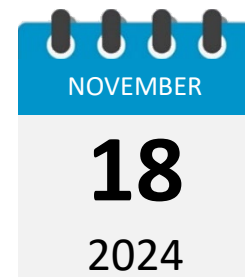
Mandatory CDL Downgrade

- 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, renewing, transferring, or upgrading a CDL or issuing, renewing, or upgrading a CLP

Beginning



SDLA Requirements FAQs

- **Will SDLAs be required to remove the commercial driving privilege, within 60 days, for *all* drivers in a prohibited status on November 18, 2024?**

Yes. This includes drivers who incurred drug and alcohol program violations prior to November 18, 2024, and are still in a “prohibited” status on the compliance date.

- **Can an SDLA start querying the Clearinghouse and initiating downgrades before the November 18, 2024 compliance date?**

Yes, as long as the SDLA has legislative authority to do so.

Note: SDLAs who are still working to obtain legislative authority can refer to the Clearinghouse-II State Requirements factsheet (available on the [SDLA Resources page](#)).

SDLA Requirements FAQs (continued)

- **Will the Clearinghouse send SDLAs a notification about the drivers that are in a “prohibited” status on November 18, 2024?**

No. SDLAs will need to pull the list of drivers in a “prohibited” status on the compliance date. This can be done manually via the web interface.

If your SDLA will connect via CDLIS you can reach out to AAMVA on this. However, FMCSA strongly recommends that *all* SDLAs request an FMCSA Portal account to gain access the Clearinghouse web interface.

- **Does the 60-day requirement apply to all drivers in a “prohibited” status on November 18, 2024?**

Yes. As established in 49 CFR [383.73\(q\)](#), upon receiving notification from FMCSA of a driver’s “prohibited” Clearinghouse status, States will have 60 days to complete and record the CDL downgrade. The initial driver data “pull” on November 18, 2024, will serve as a notification.

SDLA Requirements FAQs (continued)

- How can an SDLA plan ahead? Is there a way to know how many drivers will be in a "prohibited" status on November 18, 2024?

Yes. SDLAs with Full Access in the Clearinghouse can download the **Prohibited Drivers Report**, which lists all drivers currently in a "prohibited" Clearinghouse status.

Pulling this list regularly over the next few months can help SDLAs estimate how many drivers they will need to downgrade on the compliance date.

Run Reports

The Driver Status Change report includes all drivers that have had a Clearinghouse status change within the specific time frame. The Prohibited Drivers Report includes all drivers that are currently listed as "prohibited" in the Clearinghouse.

Driver Status Change Report

Date Range

From

To

State of Issuance

Missouri ▼

Search

Prohibited Drivers Report

State of Issuance

Missouri ▼

Search

SDLA Requirements FAQs (continued)

- **If an SDLA begins removing the commercial driving privilege for prohibited drivers ahead of the compliance date, how will the SDLA be notified if the driver’s status changes to “not prohibited”?**

If the SDLA has established their connection to the Clearinghouse, they will receive notifications from the Clearinghouse based on their State’s implementation (e.g., REST service, machine-read emails).

If an SDLA begins removing the commercial driving privilege before they have established connectivity with the Clearinghouse, the SDLA will need to regularly use the manual pull notification—downloading the **Driver Status Change Report** from the Clearinghouse web interface—to ensure they reinstate the commercial driving privilege for drivers whose statuses change to “not prohibited” after completing their RTD process (or due to erroneous entry).

SDLA Requirements FAQs (continued)

- **If an SDLA pulls a Prohibited Drivers Report or Driver Status Change Report before the compliance date, does the 60-day requirement apply?**

No. FMCSA does not plan to enforce this 60-day requirement before the November 18, 2024 compliance date. However, the 60-day requirement would apply to any driver information that is pulled on or after November 18, 2024.



Tip: Start by downgrading drivers that have been in a prohibited status for the longest amount of time. This will clear the backlog of drivers that are least likely to be working through an RTD process.

Number of Currently Prohibited Drivers In Each State

As of August 23, 2023

State (ESC)	Number of Prohibited Drivers
CT	1,405
DC	135
DE	467
MA	1,189
MD	1,539
ME	453
NH	319
NJ	2,043
NY	5,196
PA	3,598
RI	187
VA	2,410
VT	163
WV	609

State (MWSC)	Number of Prohibited Drivers
IA	1,230
IL	6,329
IN	2,137
KS	1,113
MI	3,474
MN	1,409
MO	3,204
NE	984
OH	3,746
WI	1,978

State (SSC)	Number of Prohibited Drivers
AL	2,720
AR	1,826
FL	6,230
GA	6,423
KY	1,314
LA	2,780
MS	2,714
NC	5,213
OK	2,304
SC	2,233
TN	3,286

State (WSC)	Number of Prohibited Drivers
AK	282
AZ	2,111
CA	9,736
CO	2,031
HI	243
ID	792
MT	442
ND	343
NM	776
NV	1,503
OR	1,143
SD	282
TX	11,029
UT	1,178
WA	1,685
WY	346

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.



Outreach Update

Outreach: Drivers

- Beginning November 2023, FMCSA will focus on ensuring CDL drivers are aware of the impact of Clearinghouse-II on commercial driving privileges
- FMCSA will use similar channels to Entry-Level Driver Training outreach
 - Drive traffic to Clearinghouse website, Learning Center, FAQs
 - Email blasts
 - Social media posts
 - Paid online advertising
 - Association outreach
 - Event outreach

Outreach: Drivers (continued)

- FMCSA is currently working on materials to provide to SDLAs, including:
 - RTD insert/visor card
 - Standard language to use in letters re: Clearinghouse-II-related CDL downgrades
 - Talking points/FAQs to help answer driver questions
 - Standard messaging for SDLA websites
 - Outreach PowerPoint template
 - Sample newsletter article/blurbs
 - Sample social media posts
 - Web graphics
- Planning to have the first package ready by next round of check-in webinars

Connecting to the Clearinghouse

Resources for Connecting to the Clearinghouse

- Direct Connect methods
 - Interconnection Security Agreement (ISA) is now available. To request, contact SDLAclearinghouse@dot.gov.
 - Materials from the July 20, 2023 IT “Direct Connect” webinar on SDLA Resources page
 - Technical specifications also on SDLA Resources page
- 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 v1.3](#)
- 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.

<https://clearinghouse.fmcsa.dot.gov/Resource/Page/SDLA-Resources>



SDLA Resources

- Visit the SDLA Resources page
 - **New:** Materials from IT Direct Connect webinar
 - **New:** Print-ready files of RTD visor card for drivers
 - Technical materials on “direct connect” methods
 - Instructions on requesting FMCSA Portal accounts
 - Clearinghouse-II State Requirements factsheet
 - Slides from previous SDLA check-in webinars

SDLA RESOURCES

The resources below have been developed to provide State Driver Licensing Agencies (SDLAs) with the information needed to meet with the requirements established by the Clearinghouse-II final rule.

Countdown to Clearinghouse-II

Download the materials below to learn more about the steps SDLAs need to take to prepare for the Clearinghouse-II compliance date, November 18, 2024.

- **SDLA Clearinghouse Compliance Factsheet:** A summary of the SDLA requirements established by the Clearinghouse-II final rule.
- **Countdown to Clearinghouse-II for SDLAs:** A guide for SDLAs to use in planning how they will meet their Clearinghouse requirements by November 18, 2024.
- **Clearinghouse-II State Requirements:** An outline of the Clearinghouse-II requirements to assist States in making changes to their State's statutes and regulations, if necessary, to facilitate implementation of the SDLA Clearinghouse query and CLP/CDL downgrade requirements by November 18, 2024.

Driver Resources

- **Driver Return-to-Duty Visor Card:** SDLAs can share this with drivers who lose their commercial driving privileges due to a "prohibited" Clearinghouse status. The insert summarizes the steps a driver must take to complete the return-to-duty (RTD) process.

Submit the files below to your local printer to print your own copies of the Driver Return-to-Duty Visor Card.

- **NEW:** Driver Return-to-Duty Visor Card Print-Ready Version
- **NEW:** Driver Return-to-Duty Visor Card print specifications (Word)

SDLA Check-in Webinars

Use the links below to download PDF versions of the presentations from previous check-in webinars. You can also download the SDLA Frequently Asked Questions on Clearinghouse-II (revised 5/8/2023).

- **June 2023:** Reminders about obtaining legislative authority, review of how the Clearinghouse ties violations to driver CDLs (including previous CDLs), and updates on new resources including the driver return-to-duty visor card.
- **February/March 2023:** Information about FMCSA's policy on downgrading prohibited drivers and how States can prepare, a recap of how States can connect to the Clearinghouse, and resources for helping SDLAs get ready to meet Clearinghouse-II requirements.
- **November 2022:** Overview of IT and staffing considerations for using the "direct connect" methods to query and receive notifications from the Clearinghouse, and resources for helping SDLAs connect to the Clearinghouse.
- **August 2022:** Overview of the "direct connect" methods for querying the Clearinghouse and receiving notifications from FMCSA. Screenshots of the SDLA logged in view of the Clearinghouse.
- **April 2022:** Wrap-up of the Entry-Level Driver Training implementation. Overview of the SDLA requirements in the Clearinghouse-II final rule.

Accessing the Clearinghouse

<https://clearinghouse.fmcsa.dot.gov/Resource/Page/SDLA-Resources>

State Report-Out

Countdown to Clearinghouse-II

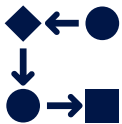
What should States do now to prepare for November 18, 2024?



Obtain legislative authority to enforce Clearinghouse regulations in your State



Select IT connectivity method(s)



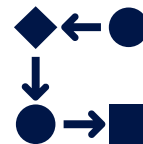
Apply for CDLPI grant funding to cover system upgrades



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

State Report-Out

- Legislative authority
 - Any new legislation since June?
 - Any State anticipating adopting legislation in the coming months?
- IT connectivity method
 - How will your State connect to the Clearinghouse?
 - Any other updates to share?
- Downgrading CDLs
 - Any other States begun this since June?
 - Any States requested Full Access?
- Policies and procedures
 - Any questions for FMCSA or other States?
 - Any best practices to share?



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>