



Commercial Motor Vehicle compliance amid the COVID-19 pandemic

March 25, 2020

The current COVID-19 situation continues to evolve and concerns have been raised by our Municipal partners on how the [Ontario Declaration of an Emergency](#) under s 7.0.1 (1) the *Emergency Management and Civil Protection Act*. may impact the operation of commercial motor vehicles (vehicles over 4500kg gross weight or registered gross weight) and the delivery of essential municipal services.

Hours of Service Ontario Regulation 555/06

Transport Canada and the US FMCSA have recently announced some limited exemptions to Hours of Service Regulations, it is anticipated that Ontario will follow with a similar announcement shortly. Exemptions are provided for transportation of medical supplies and equipment, food, sanitary supplies, equipment and supplies for temporary housing and quarantine facilities, medical personnel, and persons for transport for medical, isolation, or quarantine purposes.

We have reached out to our contacts at the Ministry of Transportation (MTO) and regional police service to confirm how compliance with the [Hours of Service \(HOS\) regulation](#) will be applied.

The Ontario Declaration of Emergency, or similar declaration by individual cities, towns or municipalities DOES NOT permit the general application of an exemption under s. 3(1)(4.1) for municipal operations. Drivers of commercial motor vehicles (CMV) must continue to comply with the HOS regulation as normal. *Reminder: Drivers currently at home, or on stand-by, are not required to maintain an up-to-date HOS record. Prior to operating a CMV, drivers must update his or her HOS record to include the current date + the preceding 14 days.*

Ontario Drive Test Centres

Effective March 23, 2020 Ontario Drive Test Centres and Travel Point locations will be closed until further notice.

Many validation periods for driver, vehicle and carrier products and services have been extended.

- extending drivers' licences expiration dates and temporary drivers' licences (TDL).
- extending driver training programs time limitations
- extending 10-day special permits and temporary validation
- extending the requirement to change address or vehicle modification within six days
- extending the Safety Standards Certificate and Structural Inspection Certificate
- extending the Commercial Vehicle Operator's Registration (CVOR), annual oversize/overweight permits and semi-annual and annual vehicle inspections
- amending effective date for mandatory electronic emission test for heavy diesel commercial vehicles from July 1, 2020 to Oct 1, 2020
- If you are required to submit a medical or vision report to the Ministry of Transportation, we are extending your due date by 60 days or more.

A complete list may be found at <https://www.ontario.ca/page/extended-validation-periods>

Further questions on regulatory compliance for drivers and commercial motor vehicles may be submitted to admin@meoa.org