



Truck and Bus Crash Reporting on the CHP 555D

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA HIGHWAY PATROL

TRUCK / BUS COLLISION SUPPLEMENTAL REPORT

CHP 555D (Rev. 1-07) OPI 062

Sponsored by the California Highway Patrol
in cooperation with
the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration



Objectives

- Explain when the Truck and Bus Collision Supplemental Report (CHP 555D) should be used for reporting truck and bus crashes.
- Provide detailed guidance for completing the CHP 555D to ensure proper translation into California's and FMCSA's crash record systems



Training Topics

- 1. Qualifying Information:** Identify reportable crashes and which commercial and non-commercial motor vehicles qualify and should be captured on the 555D and reported to FMCSA
- 2. Vehicle Information:** Review the 555D sections where information is captured on the qualifying vehicles.



Training Topics

- 3. Motor Carrier Information:** Discuss what is a motor carrier, the process for identifying the proper carrier of record, and how to record the correct information on the 555D.
- 4. Crash Events:** Review the recording of the sequence of events in the crash for the vehicle captured on the 555D.



Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA)

FMCSA's primary goal is to reduce the number and severity of crashes involving trucks, buses and all motor vehicles with hazardous materials in both interstate and intrastate commerce.



Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA)

- Regulates motor carriers' authority to operate through:
 - Roadside inspections
 - Motor Carrier compliance reviews
 - Commercial driver licensing programs, etc.
- Collects and studies crash data involving trucks and buses:
 - Measures the effectiveness of safety programs
 - Applies each crash to the identified motor carrier's safety rating



Topic 1

Qualifying Information Section

What crashes qualify?

What vehicles qualify?

In-transport or Parked

Commercial Driver's License



Truck and Bus Crashes Recorded on the 555D and Reported to FMCSA

Crashes involving commercial motor vehicles and some non-commercial motor vehicles should be reported on the CHP 555D and to the FMCSA.



CHP 555D Reporting Instruction

IF THIS CRASH INCLUDES: at least one motor vehicle in-transport operating on a trafficway open to the public, which results in:

A FATALITY: Any person(s) killed in or outside of any vehicle (truck, bus, car, etc.) involved in the crash or who dies within 30 days of the crash as a result of an injury sustained in the crash, **OR**

AN INJURY: Any person(s) injured as a result of the crash who immediately receives medical treatment away from the crash scene, **OR**

A TOW-AWAY: Any motor vehicle (truck or truck combination, bus, car, etc.) is disabled as a result of the crash and transported away from the scene by a tow truck or other vehicle.

TOTAL INVOLVED VEHICLES IN THE CRASH
NUMBER OF PERSONS SUSTAINING FATAL INJURIES
NUMBER OF INJURED PERSONS TRANSPORTED FOR IMMEDIATE MEDICAL TREATMENT
NUMBER OF VEHICLES TOWED FROM SCENE DUE TO DISABLING DAMAGE



CHP 555D Reporting Instruction

THEN COMPLETE THIS SUPPLEMENT FOR EACH OF THE FOLLOWING INVOLVED VEHICLES:

- 1. Any truck having a gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) of more than 10,000 pounds or a gross combination weight rating (GCWR) of more than 10,000 pounds used on public highways,**
- 2. Any motor vehicle with seats to transport nine (9) or more people, including the driver's seat,**
- 3. Any vehicle displaying a hazardous materials placard (regardless of weight).**

THIS FORM IS BEING COMPLETED BECAUSE THIS VEHICLE IS:

- A truck or truck combination > 10,000 lbs. GVWR / GCWR
- A bus with seats for 9 or more persons, including driver
- A vehicle of any type with a hazardous materials placard (includes auto, light truck, van, 10,000 lbs. or less)



Reporting Criteria for Completing the 555D

Vehicle

Weight
>10,000 lbs.
GVWR or GCWR

OR

Passenger Capacity
9+ including driver

OR

Hazardous Materials Placard

**Qualifying Vehicle:
Prepare
CHP 555D**

Crash

Fatality

OR

Injury
Taken for Treatment

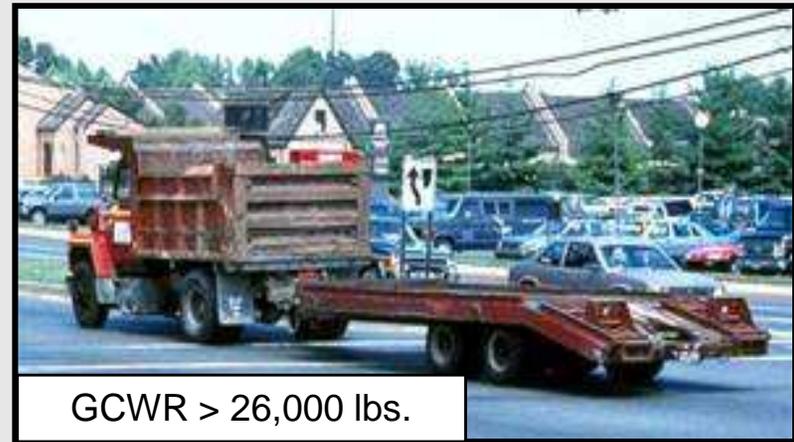
OR

Tow Away
With Disabling Damage



Weight Requirements

Any truck having a gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) of more than 10,000 pounds or a gross combination weight rating (GCWR) of more than 10,000 pounds used on public highways.



THIS FORM IS BEING COMPLETED BECAUSE THIS VEHICLE IS:

- A truck or truck combination > 10,000 lbs. GVWR / GCWR
- A bus with seats for 9 or more persons, including driver
- A vehicle of any type with a hazardous materials placard (includes auto, light truck, van, 10,000 lbs. or less)

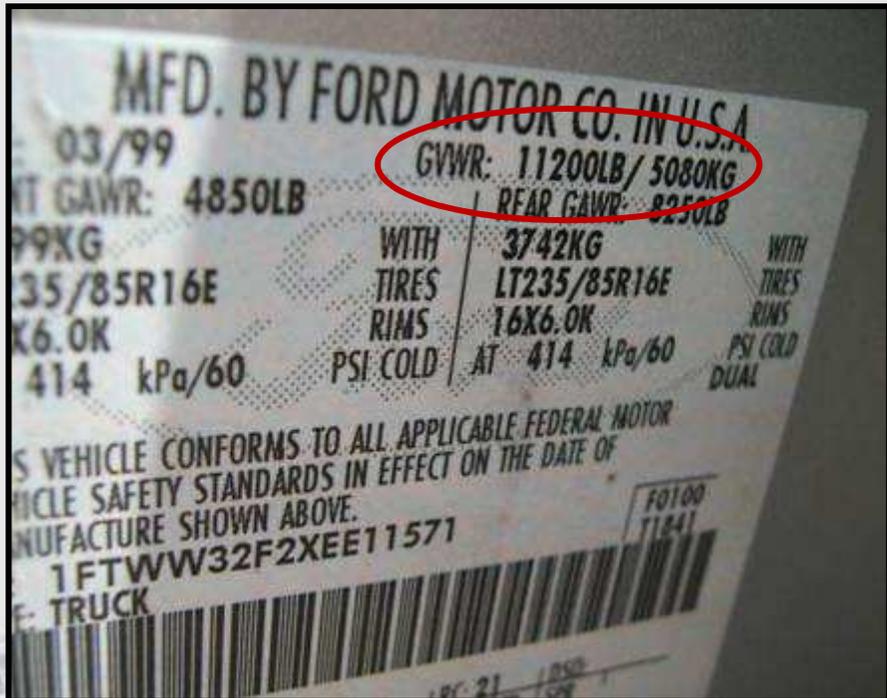


Commercial truck/trailers greater than 10,000 GCWR





Commercial “Dooley” Pickup



Passenger Capacity

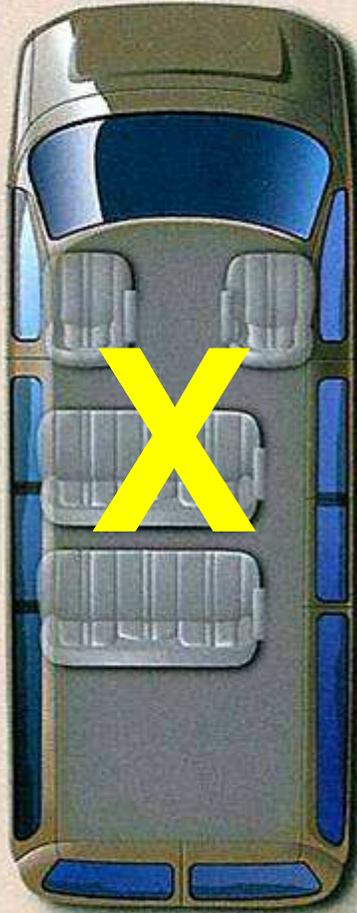
Any motor vehicle with seating to transport nine (9) or more people, including the driver's seat.



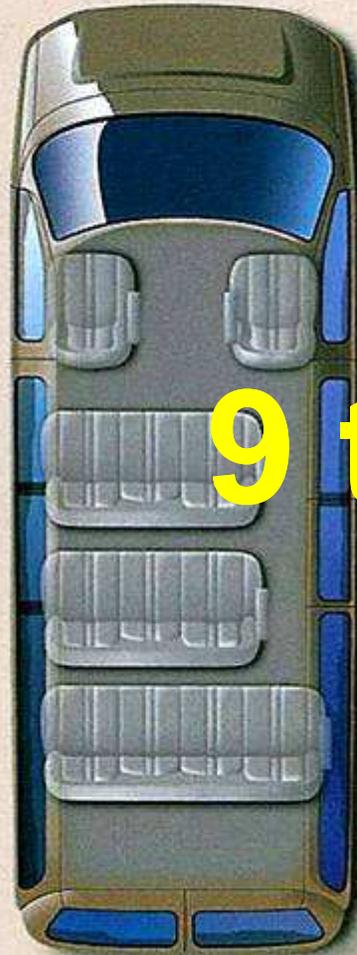
THIS FORM IS BEING COMPLETED BECAUSE THIS VEHICLE IS:

- A truck or truck combination > 10,000 lbs. GVWR / GCWR
- A bus with seats for 9 or more persons, including driver
- A vehicle of any type with a hazardous materials placard (includes auto, light truck, van, 10,000 lbs. or less)

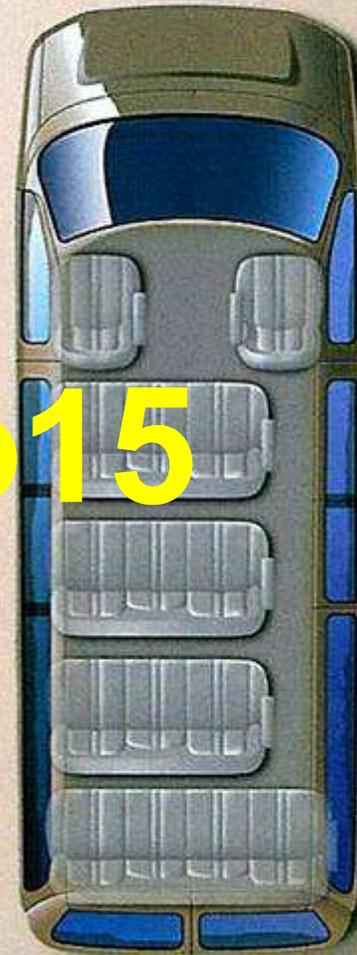
EXPRESS SEATING CONFIGURATIONS



8-passenger



12-passenger



15-passenger

9 to 15



Hazardous Materials: Any vehicle displaying a hazardous materials placard (regardless of weight)

If a vehicle is discovered to be transporting hazardous materials without a required placard by an officer knowledgeable in Federal Hazardous Materials Regulations, it should also be reported to FMCSA.



THIS FORM IS BEING COMPLETED BECAUSE THIS VEHICLE IS:

- A truck or truck combination > 10,000 lbs. GVWR / GCWR
- A bus with seats for 9 or more persons, including driver
- A vehicle of any type with a hazardous materials placard (includes auto, light truck, van, 10,000 lbs. or less)



What is a Commercial Motor Vehicle (CMV)?

A commercial motor vehicle is any motor vehicle used on a trafficway for the transportation of goods, property or people in interstate or intrastate commerce.



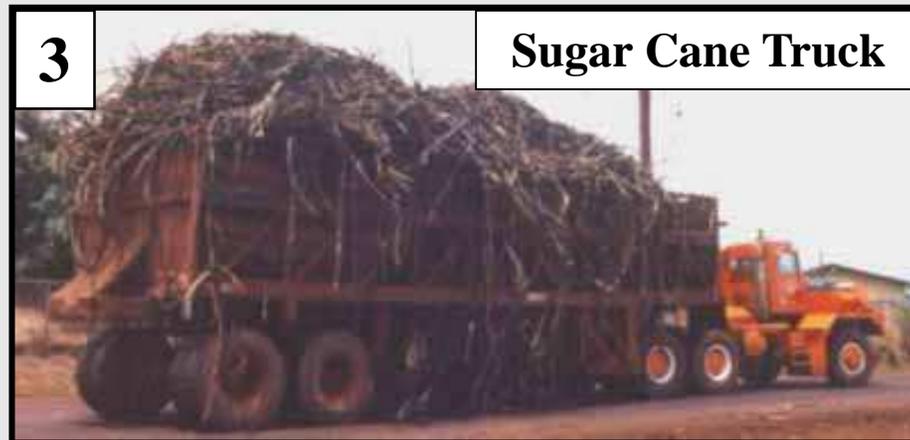
Qualifying Commercial Motor Vehicles

1. A trucking company or individual owner/operator hauling the goods of a business for a fee. (For-Hire Carrier)
2. A manufacturing company hauling its own products to retail stores, or a retail store delivering products to its buyers. (Not For Hire Carrier)



Qualifying Commercial Motor Vehicles

3. A farm hauling its produce to or from the market.



4. A motor coach, airport shuttle, or hotel-owned shuttle bus or limousine service transporting passengers.



FMCSA Ticket Book/Visor Cards

Crashes involving commercial motor vehicles and some non-commercial motor vehicles must be reported on a State's crash report and to the FMCSA. A commercial motor vehicle is any motor vehicle that is used on a trafficway for the transportation of goods, property, or people in interstate or intrastate commerce.

INCLUDED:

Here are some examples of commercial and non-commercial operations that, when involved in a crash, should be included if they meet the criteria on the front of this card.

Examples:

1. A trucking company or individual owner/operator hauling the goods of a business for a fee.
2. A manufacturing company hauling its own products to retail stores, or a retail store delivering products to its buyers.
3. A farm hauling its produce to market.
4. A motorcoach, airport shuttle, or hotel-owned shuttle bus or limousine service transporting passengers.
5. A government-owned truck or bus.
6. A school bus transporting students to/from school or school-related activities.
7. A rented or leased truck used to transport either commercial or personal goods.
8. A truck or truck tractor owned and operated for commerce being used for a personal trip or to transport personal goods.

EXCLUDED:

Here are some examples of non-commercial operations that, when involved in a crash, should not be included.

Examples:

1. A non-commercial horse owner transporting hay bales from his pasture on one side of the road to his stables on the other side of the road in a truck with a GVWR greater than 10,000 pounds.
2. A homeowner carrying recyclables to a drop-off point in a personally owned pickup truck with a GVWR greater than 10,000 pounds.
3. A family of 10 persons taking a trip in the family's 12-person van.
4. A personally owned pickup truck hauling a boat, horse or utility trailer with a GCWR greater than 10,000 pounds not operating in commerce or as part of a business.
5. A family operating a personally owned and registered recreational vehicle or motor home.



What Does FMCSA Mean by “Some Non-Commercial” Motor Vehicles?

- **Include crashes involving Federal, State, and local government-owned vehicles**
 - **Transit buses**
 - **School buses**
 - **Garbage trucks**
 - **Military vehicles**
 - **Highway maintenance vehicles (State and Local)**
 - **Emergency vehicles (EMS, fire trucks, etc.)**
- **Include rental trucks used for personal transportation as well as commercial transportation (e.g., U-Haul, Ryder, Budget, etc.)**
- **Non-Profit Organizations**
 - **Charities**
 - **Churches**
 - **Food banks**



CHP 555D Supplement Fields

MOTOR CARRIER INFORMATION			
CHECK ONE:			
<input type="checkbox"/> Interstate Carrier	<input type="checkbox"/> Intrastate Carrier	<input type="checkbox"/> Not In Commerce - Government	<input type="checkbox"/> Not In Commerce - Other Trucks (Over 10,000 lbs. GVWR / GCWR)
Carrier Name: _____			
Carrier Street Address (P.O. Box only if no street address): _____			
City / State / ZIP Code: _____		Phone Number: _____	
Carrier ID Number(s): NONE	USDOT# _____	MC / MX# _____	State# CA _____

Not In-Commerce – Government : This selection is used for any government vehicle whether it is operated by the local, state, or federal government.

Not In-Commerce – Other Trucks: This selection is used for rental vehicles (e.g. - Uhaul, Ryder, Penske) that qualify by size (Over 10,000 lbs. GVWR/ GCWR) that are rented and operated by a private individual.



Qualifying Government Trucks and Buses

5. A government-owned truck and bus.



6. A school bus transporting students to/from school or school-related activities.



Qualifying “Personal-Use” Motor Vehicles

7. A rented or leased truck used to transport either commercial or personal goods (Ryder, U-Haul, Budget, etc.)
(Other Non-commercial)



8. A truck or truck tractor owned and operated for commerce being used for a personal trip or to transport personal goods.
(Interstate or Intrastate)

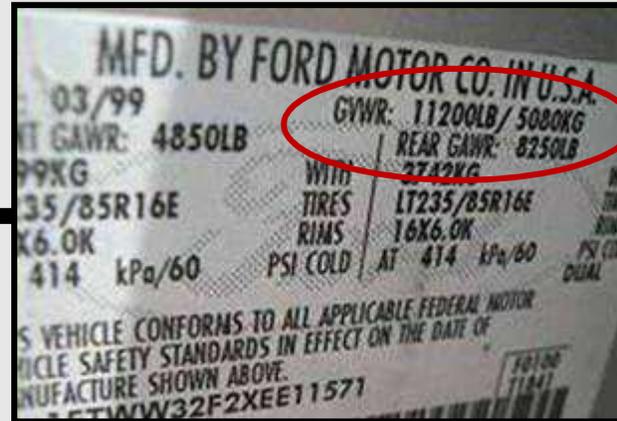


Marina Owner taking his personal sailboat to a sailboat race.



Exceptions: Crashes where the only qualifying vehicle is:

A personally-owned truck or passenger vehicle meant for personal use only, even if greater than 10,000 lbs.



Non-Commercial Exceptions

Here are some examples of non-commercial operations that, when involved in a crash, should **not** be included:

1. A non-commercial, horse owner transporting hay bales from his pasture on one side of the road to his stables on the other side in a truck with a GVWR greater than 10,000 lbs.



2. A homeowner carrying recyclables to a drop-off point in a personally owned pickup truck with a GVWR greater than 10,000 lbs.



Non-Commercial Exceptions

Here are some examples of non-commercial operations that, when involved in a crash, should **not** be included: (Cont.)

3. A family of 10 persons taking a trip in the family's 12-person van.



Crash Severity (Reporting Criteria)

A fatality: ANY person(s) killed in or outside of any vehicle (truck, bus, car, etc.) involved in the crash or who dies within 30 days of the crash as a result of an injury sustained in the crash

An injury: ANY person(s) injured as a result of the crash who immediately receives medical treatment *away from the crash scene.*

TOTAL INVOLVED VEHICLES IN THE CRASH

NUMBER OF PERSONS SUSTAINING FATAL INJURIES

NUMBER OF INJURED PERSONS TRANSPORTED FOR IMMEDIATE MEDICAL TREATMENT

NUMBER OF VEHICLES TOWED FROM SCENE DUE TO DISABLING DAMAGE



Common Questions:

Q: What is the meaning of “immediate medical attention?”

A: A person immediately receives medical treatment and he or she is transported directly from the scene of an accident to a hospital or other medical facility as soon as it is considered safe and feasible to move the injured person away from the scene of the accident.

Q: Must a person who is injured in an accident be transported to a treatment facility in an ambulance?

A: No. Any type of vehicle may be used to transport an injured person from the accident scene to a treatment facility.



Crash Severity (Reporting Criteria)

A tow-away: **ANY** motor vehicle (truck, bus, car, etc.) disabled as a result of the crash and transported away from the scene by a tow truck or other vehicle.

Does **NOT** include vehicles that are not disabled, but towed from the scene for other reasons (i.e., driver arrested or does not have a required CDL, vehicle placed out of service due to a broken headlight at night, etc.)

TOTAL INVOLVED VEHICLES IN THE CRASH

NUMBER OF PERSONS SUSTAINING FATAL INJURIES

NUMBER OF INJURED PERSONS TRANSPORTED FOR IMMEDIATE MEDICAL TREATMENT

NUMBER OF VEHICLES TOWED FROM SCENE DUE TO DISABLING DAMAGE



Common Questions:

Assistance vs. Towing

If a vehicle is driven from the scene with damage determined to be minor or functional after being assisted by a tow truck (e.g. being pulled out of ditch), it is **not** considered to be towed due to disabling damage in the crash.



Common Questions:

What is Disabling Damage?

(From the Code of Federal Regulations and ANSI D-16)

Disabling Damage means damage which precludes departure of a motor vehicle from the scene of the accident in its usual manner in daylight after simple repairs.

Inclusions:

- ✓ **Damage to motor vehicles that could have been driven, but would have been further damaged if so driven.**



Disabling Damage

(From the Code of Federal Regulations and ANSI D-16)

Exclusions:

- ✓ **Damage which can be remedied temporarily at the scene of the accident without special tools or parts**
- ✓ **Tire disablement without other damage even if no spare tire is available**
- ✓ **Headlamp or taillight damage**
- ✓ **Damage to turn signals, horn, or windshield wipers which makes them inoperative**



Common Questions:

What do you do when a portion of a combination vehicle is disabled?

Guideline: A truck tractor or a single-unit truck pulling a trailer is considered one unit at the time of the accident. Therefore, if the truck tractor can drive away but the trailer is disabled, the entire truck combination should be considered disabled.

❖ **Example:** A tractor semi-trailer strikes a bridge overhead structure with its trailer and the trailer is disabled and must be towed. However the truck tractor is not damaged, and is driven off. The vehicle would still be considered to be “towed” due to disabling damage.



Additional Fields

(Qualifying Information Section)

In-transport or Parked

Driver License Class



In-transport and Parked

- Record if this vehicle was in-motion (In-Transport) or stopped other than in a travel lane (Parked) at the time it became involved in the crash.

AT THE TIME OF THE CRASH, THIS VEHICLE WAS:

Operating on a Trafficway open to the public (In-Transport)

Parked on or off the Trafficway

***Important – Whether a vehicle was “legally parked” or “at-fault” is NOT material for completing a 555D. Qualifying vehicles involved in crashes that are Parked can be addressed in the carrier’s safety record when a Compliance Review is performed or by petition from the carrier using FMCSA’s “Data Q’s” request system.**



Commercial Driver License (CDL)

- **Beginning in 1992, all states have required CDLs;**
 - Commercial Motor Vehicles in excess of 26,000 lbs GVWR; or
 - Transporting hazardous materials, in sufficient quantities (placarded); or
 - Transporting 16 or more persons, including the driver.



Common Questions:

Does FMCSA want crashes where the driver of the vehicle does not have a Commercial Driver's License (CDL)?

- **YES! A driver of a truck between 10,001 to 26,000 pounds or a bus with 9 to 15 seats is not required to have a CDL. However, crashes involving these vehicles meet FMCSA's selection criteria.**



Commercial Driver License (CDL)

Commercial Driver's License(CDL)

Commercial Motor Vehicle Groups

Group A (Combination Vehicle)

Any combination of vehicles with a gross combination weight rating (GCWR) of 26,001 pounds or more provided the GVWR of the vehicle(s) being towed is in excess of 10,000 pounds.



Group B (Heavy Straight Vehicle)

Any single vehicle with a GVWR of 26,001 pounds or more, or any such vehicle towing a vehicle not in excess of 10,000 pounds GVWR.



Group C (Small Vehicle)

Any single vehicle or combination of vehicles, that meets neither the definition of Group A nor Group B, but is designed to transport 16 or more passengers including the driver, or is used in the transportation of materials found to be hazardous which require the motor vehicle to be placarded. This includes any quantity of chemical or biological material or agent posing a threat to national security, including toxins.



California – CHP 555D

CDL Driver License Class

1. Record if the driver of this vehicle has a CDL (Commercial Class A, B, or C). Do not take into consideration whether the driver was operating a vehicle not permitted by the class they were issued.
2. Then check the applicable Driver's License Class
 - A, B, or C – Commercial Classes
 - Class D – Driver's License, Class M – Motorcycles

COMMERCIAL DRIVER LICENSE (CDL):

Yes No

CDL LICENSE CLASS (Check one):

Class A Class B Class C Class D Class M



Commercial Driver License (CDL)

Commercial Driver's License (CDL)

CDL Endorsements

Double/Triple Trailers (T)



Passenger Vehicles (P)



Tank Vehicles (N)



Hazardous Materials (H) (any size vehicle)



School Buses (S)



Tank & Hazardous Materials (X)



***Note – The School Bus (S) endorsement is a newer endorsement specifically for school bus operators. It should appear with a Passenger Vehicles (P) endorsement.**