



Wisconsin State Patrol & Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

**Do I need a USDOT
Number?**

***WITH A FEW EXCEPTIONS
THE ANSWER IS YES...***



Apply Online!



www.fmcsa.dot.gov

Sept. 2010

What is a USDOT Number?

Companies that operate commercial vehicles transporting passengers or hauling cargo in intra or interstate commerce must be registered with the FMCSA and must have a USDOT Number. Also, commercial intrastate hazardous materials carriers that haul quantities requiring a safety permit must register for a USDOT Number. The USDOT Number serves as a unique identifier when collecting and monitoring a company's safety information acquired during audits, compliance reviews, crash investigations, and inspections.

Where does it say I have to have a USDOT Number?

The adoption of Title 49 CFR 390 as noted in Trans 327 operating CMV's registered in Wisconsin. Wisconsin Administrative Code Chapter Trans 327.03 (1) adopts Title 49 CFR Part 390.19. Part 390.19 requires each motor carrier that operates in commerce to obtain a USDOT number.



Who is required to have a USDOT Number?

A USDOT number is required if you have:

- Vehicles with a gross vehicle weight rating or gross combination weight rating, or gross vehicle weight or gross combination weight of 10,001 pounds or more, whichever is greater; or
- is designed or used to transport more than 8 passengers (including the driver) for compensation; or
- is designed or used to transport more than 15 passengers, including the driver, and is not used to transport passengers for compensation; or
- is used in transporting material found by the Secretary of Transportation to be hazardous under 49 U.S.C. 5103 and transported in a quantity requiring placarding under regulations prescribed by the Secretary under 49 CFR, subtitle B, chapter I, subchapter C.

Most commercial motor vehicles in Wisconsin require a USDOT Number and it must be provided at the time of registration. If you are required to have a USDOT Number, and cannot produce the number for verification, your vehicle registration application will not be processed until a valid number is provided.

How do I display my USDOT Number?

The marking must display the following information:

- The legal name or a single trade name,
- the motor carrier identification number issued by the FMCSA, preceded by the letters "USDOT".
- the marking must appear on both sides of the self-propelled CMV,
- letters that contrast sharply in color with the background on which the letters are placed and
- be readily legible, during daylight hours from a distance of 50 feet while the CMV is stationary.

What is the difference between interstate commerce and intrastate commerce?

Interstate commerce is trade, traffic, or transportation involving the crossing of a state boundary. Either the vehicle, its passengers, or cargo must cross a state boundary, or there must be the intent to cross a state boundary to be considered an interstate carrier. Intrastate commerce is trade, traffic, or transportation within a single state.

How do I Obtain a USDOT Number?

- 1) To register on-line for either an interstate or an intrastate USDOT number visit FMCSA's website located at:
www.fmcsa.dot.gov

There is no fee for applying for a USDOT number, however, a Visa or MasterCard must be provided to ensure a digital signature is on file for the official record when applying online. When applying online you will be issued a **USDOT number** for your business **INSTANTLY**.

- 2) You may also call 1-800-832-5660 for information on applying by fax or by mail.

Note:

The process time when applying by fax process time is 2-4 weeks. The process time when applying by mail is 4-6 weeks.

Commercial Motor Vehicle

Commercial Trucks

Motor Carrier Registration.....608-266-9900
CDL.....608-266-2353
Fuel Tax.....608-266-9900
LC Number.....608-266-1356
Oversize/Overweight Permits....608-266-7320

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

USDOT Number.....1-800-832-5660
MC (Operating Authority) # ...1-202-366-9805
FMCSA Safety Hotline..... 1-888-368-7238

Truck & Bus & Hazardous Materials Regulatory Questions

FMCSA Wisconsin.....608-662-2010

Wisconsin State Patrol

Motor Carrier Enforcement Information System
MCEIS.....608-267-9762

Drivers & License Plates and Titles

Driver License/Records.....608-266-2353
License Plates and Titles.....608-266-1466

Websites

Wisconsin DOT State Patrol

www.dot.wisconsin.gov/statepatrol

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

FMCSA.....www.fmcsa.dot.gov
SAFER.....www.safer.fmcsa.dot.gov



APPLY ONLINE NOW !
- No Fee Required -
OBTAIN YOUR USDOT NUMBER
INSTANTLY

GO TO: www.fmcsa.dot.gov

CLICK ON

**Registration & Assistance:
USDOT Number/Operating Authority *New!***

• Select: Help me Register - Step-by-Step Guide

or

• Select: Register Now without Help
- Online Registration without Help

[HTTP://CSA2010.FMCSA.DOT.GOV](http://CSA2010.FMCSA.DOT.GOV)

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