

## New Ventures and Commercial Driver's Licenses (CDLs)

### The Importance of Aging MC Authority

Aging the MC Authority for 90 days prior to hauling freight (***with minimum legal coverage***) is a strategic move for new motor carriers. One of the challenges faced by new motor carriers is gaining the trust of freight brokers. Many freight brokers are hesitant to work with carriers who have had their MC Authority for less than 90 days. CALL ME to DISCUSS THE ADVANTAGES.

### File New Business Online with Your State's Secretary of State) (Example: Sole Proprietor LLC)

The **Secretary of State** is for registration of various business entities. (*Consult with your Accountant*) This includes corporations, limited liability companies (LLCs), partnerships, and sole proprietorships. I organized under: **A sole proprietor limited liability company (LLC)** is a unique business structure that combines the simplicity of a sole proprietorship with the liability protection of a corporation. This hybrid model allows individuals to operate their businesses as sole owners while shielding their personal assets from business debts and liabilities.

Required filing: Articles of organization includes information about the LLC's name, address, and members. The filing of articles of organization establishes the LLC as a separate legal entity, providing its owners with limited liability protection.

In addition to initial registration, the Secretary of State mandates that businesses submit annual reports to maintain their good standing. These reports typically include updated information about the business's address, officers, and directors. By requiring annual reporting, the Secretary of State ensures that the information on file is current and accurate.

[Businesses | Tennessee Secretary of State](#) (Your State of Business Address)

## Acquire Employer Identification Number

**An Employer Identification Number (EIN)** is a unique nine-digit number assigned by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) to businesses operating in the United States. It functions like a Social Security number for businesses, enabling them to open bank accounts, file taxes, and hire employees. Obtaining an EIN is essential for any business entity, including sole proprietors, partnerships, corporations, and LLCs, to ensure proper identification in various financial and legal transactions.

[Get an employer identification number | Internal Revenue Service](#)

## Open Bank Account (Bring Articles of Incorporation & Employer Identification Number).

## Register for IRP & IFTA

**Your State's Department of Revenue** plays a crucial role in the administration of state tax laws, including specialized services for motor carriers. Among their key responsibilities are the management of the International Fuel Tax Agreement (IFTA) and the International Registration Plan (IRP).

**IFTA** is a cooperative agreement among the lower 48 states of the U.S. and Canadian provinces to simplify the reporting of fuel use by motor carriers operating in multiple jurisdictions. The Department of Revenue serves as the primary agency for motor carriers that handle the issuance of IFTA licenses and decals, processing fuel tax returns, and ensuring compliance with IFTA requirements.

**Fuel Tax Reporting:** Carriers are required to file quarterly fuel tax returns with the Department of Revenue. These returns detail the fuel purchased and consumed in each IFTA member jurisdiction.

**IRP** is an agreement among U.S. states, the District of Columbia, and Canadian provinces that facilitates the equitable sharing of registration fees for commercial motor vehicles traveling across multiple jurisdictions.

Vehicle Registration: The department manages the registration of commercial motor vehicles under IRP, allowing carriers to operate in multiple jurisdictions with a single registration plate.

[International Registration Plan](#) (Tennessee Department of Revenue)

## Register with Unified Carrier Registration

**(UCR)** is a mandatory program for individuals and companies operating commercial vehicles in interstate or international commerce. To comply with this regulation, you must file and pay your annual UCR fees based on the size of your fleet. This process ensures that you are registered with the appropriate authorities and that your business is operating legally across state lines.

[UCR](#)

## Acquire Insurance

**Insurance is a critical aspect of any business**, but for truckers, it holds an even more significant role. Trucking companies face unique risks and challenges that require specialized coverage. Gladhand Insurance Agency is dedicated exclusively to truckers that offer tailored solutions specific to the needs of the industry. We understand the complexities of trucking operations and provide policies that ensure the safety, stability, and continuity of trucking businesses. **(AGE YOUR AUTHORITY, with affordable minimum coverage, FOR 90 DAYS).**

[Glad Hand Insurance](#)

## Complete Application for FMCSA Office of Registration (MC Authority & DOT Numbers)

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) Office of Registration plays a crucial role in regulating and overseeing the registration and compliance of motor carriers operating within the United States. This office is responsible for ensuring that motor carriers adhere to federal regulations and maintain proper documentation to operate legally and safely on the nation's highways.

Processing Registration Applications: The office processes applications for motor carrier operating authority, ensuring that applicants meet the necessary requirements and comply with federal regulations. Motor carriers and other entities involved in the transportation industry are required to complete various forms and submit documentation to the FMCSA Office of Registration. These forms ensure that carriers meet safety, financial responsibility, and regulatory requirements.

### ***Required Filings for FMCSA:***

#### **Form BOC-3: Designation of Agents for Service of Process**

The primary purpose of Form BOC-3 is to ensure that motor carriers have a designated agent in each state where they operate. This agent is responsible for receiving legal documents on behalf of the company, such as court orders, legal notices, and other official communications. By designating an agent, motor carriers ensure that they can be reached and held accountable for any legal matters that may arise.

**Form MCS-90** is an essential document that guarantees motor carriers have sufficient financial responsibility to cover public liability. This includes bodily injury, property damage, and environmental restoration in case of an accident. The form serves as an endorsement to the motor carrier's insurance policy, ensuring that they have the necessary coverage to protect the public and comply with federal regulations.

#### **Portal Login, New Registration, How to Videos, BOC-3 Processing Agents, Registration Forms, Insurance Requirements, USDOT Status, USDOT PIN**

[FMCSA Registration | FMCSA](#)

[Form MCS-90 - Endorsement for Motor Carrier Policies of Insurance for Public Liability under Sections 29 and 30 of the Motor Carrier Act of 1980 | FMCSA](#)

[Form BOC-3 - Designation of Agents for Service of Process | FMCSA](#)

## **Register with Drug & Alcohol Clearinghouse**

Is a secure online database that provides real-time information about commercial driver's license (CDL) holders' drug and alcohol program violations. Managed by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), the Clearinghouse aims to improve road safety by identifying and removing drivers who commit such violations. It requires employers, medical review officers, and substance abuse professionals to report any violations, and

mandates that employers check the database annually. The Clearinghouse thus ensures transparency and accountability within the commercial transportation industry.

[Drug & Alcohol Clearinghouse](#)

## **Schedule Your Safety Audit**

*All new motor carriers must undergo a safety audit within their first 18 months of operation.* During this period, the FMCSA evaluates the carrier's safety management practices to determine their adherence to regulations concerning driver qualifications, hours of service, vehicle maintenance, and other critical areas.

[New Entrant Safety Assurance Program | FMCSA](#)

## **Form 2290**

**Heavy Highway Vehicle Use Tax Return**, is a form used by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) in the United States. It is required for individuals or businesses that operate heavy highway motor vehicles with a taxable gross weight of 55,000 pounds or more. Form 2290 must be filed annually, typically by August 31st, for vehicles used during the tax period beginning July 1st and ending June 30th.

[About Form 2290, Heavy Highway Vehicle Use Tax Return | Internal Revenue Service](#)

## **Must Have Phone Apps**

### **Google Maps (Not Valid for Truck Routes)**

However, the best benefits of Google Maps is its real-time navigation and traffic updates. This feature helps users avoid traffic jams, construction zones, and accidents, ensuring more efficient route corrections.

[Google Maps – Apps on Google Play](#) (Most Real Time Highway Conditions)

## **Truckers Path**

Is a highly valuable app designed specifically for the trucking industry. It offers real-time information on truck stops, weigh stations, and parking availability, helping truckers plan their routes more efficiently and avoid unexpected delays. The app also provides updates on fuel prices, ensuring that drivers can find the best fuel discounts on their routes.

[Trucker Path | Technology Built for the Trucking Industry](#)

## Motive ELD

**Easy to use, good customer service, only one I am familiar with**

*(Electronic Logging Device is required by FMSCA)* is an essential tool for fleet management. It provides comprehensive tracking and recording of driver's hours of service, ensuring compliance with federal regulations. The platform's user-friendly interface management tools are essential for IFTA filings.

[Motive: All-in-One Fleet Management & Driver Safety Platform](#)

## Load Boards (spot market).

DAT Load Board and Truckstop are both essential tools for carriers navigating the spot market. These platforms provide comprehensive load board and freight management software that connect carriers with available loads. Load Boards offer extensive network and real-time updates. I utilized both DAT & Truckstop for booking loads. However, for me, Truckstop was better for flatbed loads and seemed to me to be more user friendly.

[Load Board - DAT](#) (Spot Market Load Board)

[Load Board and Freight Management Software | Truckstop](#) (Spot Market Load Board)

## Fuel Program (Must have! Incredible Savings!)

Mudflap is an essential fuel application designed specifically for carriers looking to maximize their savings. Provides access to fuel discounts at thousands of locations across the country. The app is user-friendly and offers real-time updates on fuel prices. Mudflap's network includes major truck stops and independent fuel stations, ensuring that truckers have a wide range of options no matter where their routes take them.

[Best Fuel Discounts for Carriers from Mudflap](#) (Fuel Discounts)

## **CAT Scale**

CAT Scale Apps provide truck drivers with a convenient way to weigh their vehicles at CAT Scale locations. The app allows drivers to locate the nearest CAT Scale, access their weight history, and receive weigh tickets electronically. The CAT Scale network is extensive, providing reliable and certified scales across the country, making it an indispensable tool for truckers.

[CAT Scale Apps | CAT Scale](#)

## **Submit Invoice & Paperwork to Brokers**

When it comes to submitting invoices and paperwork to brokers, finding a reliable and efficient tool is crucial for carriers. Streamline the invoice process (couple pictures with your phone: Converts Invoice, POD, RateCon into a PDF) enabling you to quickly send invoices with ease.

[The Acrobat Alternative](#)

## **Accounting Tool**

With QuickBooks®, carriers can simplify their accounting by converting pictures of receipts into records, making it easier to track expenses and manage finances. This feature allows users to snap a photo of their receipts, which the app then processes and logs into the accounting system, ensuring accuracy and saving time.

[QuickBooks®: Official Site | Smart Tools. Better Business.](#)

## **Hotel for 34 Hour Reset**

Finding a motel that offers truck parking can be a challenge, but using Google Maps can help drivers identify the best spots. By simply entering the location of hotel, one can search

for parking facilities that are sufficient for trucks. Combining this tool with Trucker Path, Booking.com, or Hopper can enhance your overall experience for parking.

[Trucker Path | Technology Built for the Trucking Industry](#) (look for feature on App; hotel feature not always easy to find).

[Booking.com | Official site | The best hotels, flights, car rentals & accommodations](#) (Hotel)

[Hopper | Book Hotels, Flights, Car Rentals & More](#) (Hotel)

**Give me a call for assistance and setting up your  
new motor carrier 629-239-6020**