

PRISM and Enforcement Information

Enforcement is the process by which carrier safety is systematically tracked and improved. Carriers identified as needing improvement in safety practices are entered into the FMCSA Motor Carrier Safety Improvement Process (MCSIP). MCSIP carriers that fail to improve face penalties that are progressively more severe culminating in a federal out-of-service order.

Pursuant to Virginia Code § 46.2-609, DMV may suspend or revoke the vehicle registration of vehicles associated with a Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) out-of-service order. Generally, DMV will revoke the registration and repossess the license plates of vehicles operated by a carrier subject to a safety-related FMCSA out-of-service order. If your vehicle registration is revoked, then your vehicle's license plates cannot be reactivated and registration fees will not be refunded.

Contact Information

If you have questions relating to PRISM or IRP, please contact DMV Motor Carrier Services at (804) 249-5130 or mconline@dmv.virginia.gov.

For more information, visit www.dmvNOW.com or www.fmcsa.dot.gov.


PRISM

Performance and Registration
Information Systems Management

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A partnership to
promote and enhance
motor carrier safety.

Department of Motor Vehicles

Virginia DMV participates in the federal Performance and Registration Information Systems Management (PRISM) program. PRISM is a partnership between the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) and the states to promote and enhance motor carrier safety.

PRISM Requirements for International Registration Plan (IRP)

- ▶ A requirement for the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) number and Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) to be provided for each vehicle being registered. The TIN is the Federal Employer Identification Number (FEIN) or Social Security Number (SSN). These numbers are for the carrier that is responsible for the safe operation of the vehicle.
- ▶ A requirement to specify whether the carrier responsible for the safety of a vehicle is expected to change during the registration year. If the carrier is not expected to change, information about the responsible carrier is included in a bar code on the IRP registration card to assist enforcement in completing vehicle and carrier inspections.
- ▶ Vehicles associated with a carrier that has an inactive USDOT number or has been placed out of service by FMCSA will be denied IRP registration until the inactive status or the out of service condition has been satisfied. The same applies for vehicles that are subject to a vehicle-level out of service order.



Actions You Should Take to Avoid Service Delays

- ▶ When filing an IRP application ensure that you have completed the information about the motor carrier responsible for the safety of your vehicle(s).
- ▶ If the carrier responsible for the safe operation of any vehicle in your fleet does not have a USDOT number, the carrier should obtain one now. Apply online through the FMCSA website www.fmcsa.dot.gov under Registration or Licensing.
- ▶ If the responsible carrier has an outstanding out of service order issued by FMCSA, action should be taken to comply the order.
- ▶ If any vehicle in your IRP fleet has an outstanding out of service order issued by FMCSA, action should be taken to comply with the order.
- ▶ The carrier responsible for the safe operation of any vehicles in the fleet must update the USDOT number census information biennially. This may be done online through the FMCSA website www.fmcsa.dot.gov.

How to Determine the Carrier Responsible for Safety

The motor carrier responsible for safety is the entity that is accountable for things like hours-of-service and other safety regulations, drug and alcohol testing, and vehicle maintenance.

If the IRP registrant holds that responsibility for all the vehicles in the registrant's fleet, the USDOT number and TIN for the IRP registrant should be listed for each vehicle.

If the IRP registrant only rents or leases its vehicles, the USDOT number of the rentor or lessee should be listed regardless if it is a short term or long term lease.



If the IRP registrant is an owner operator that always operates under another company's interstate operating authority, the USDOT number of the carrier holding the authority should be listed regardless if it is a short term or long term lease.

If the IRP registrant is a valid interstate motor carrier, but also rents or leases vehicles to other interstate motor carriers who will be responsible for their safe operation, the following instructions should be followed when providing the USDOT number and TIN of the carrier responsible for the safety of the individual rented or leased vehicles:

Short Term Lease – if the vehicle will be rented or leased for less than 30 days to an interstate motor carrier, enter the IRP registrant's USDOT number and TIN.

Long Term Lease – if the vehicle will be leased for 30 days or more to an interstate motor carrier, enter the lessee's USDOT number and TIN.

When a lease on a vehicle is changed, especially when changed to a long term lease, you're encouraged to submit an IRP application to update the motor carrier responsible for safety. We will issue a replacement registration card which will help to ensure that safety related events are assigned to the proper carrier.