



# DOT NUMBER AND OPERATING AUTHORITY

## DOT NUMBER

Companies that operate commercial vehicles transporting passengers or hauling cargo in interstate commerce must be registered with the FMCSA and must have a USDOT Number. Also, commercial intrastate hazardous materials carriers who haul types and 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.

You are required to obtain a USDOT number if you have a vehicle that:

- Is used to transport the types and quantities of hazardous materials requiring a safety permit in intrastate commerce (see [49 CFR 385.403](#)).

OR

- Has a gross vehicle weight rating or gross combination weight rating, or gross vehicle weight or gross combination weight, of 4,536 kg (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;

*AND is involved in Interstate commerce: Trade, traffic, or transportation in the United States—*

- Between a place in a State and a place outside of such State (including a place outside of the United States);
- Between two places in a State through another State or a place outside of the United States; or
- Between two places in a State as part of trade, traffic, or transportation originating or terminating outside the State or the United States.

You are required by FMCSA to obtain a USDOT Number and comply with the Federal Regulations.

## OPERATING AUTHORITY (MC#)

In general, companies that do the following are required to have interstate Operating Authority (MC number) in addition to a DOT number:

- Transport passengers in interstate commerce (for a fee or other compensation, whether direct or indirect)
- Transport federally-regulated commodities owned by others or arranging for their transport, (for a fee or other compensation, in interstate commerce)

FMCSA operating authority is often identified as an "MC," "FF," or "MX" number, depending on the type of authority that is granted. Unlike the USDOT Number application process, a company may need to obtain multiple operating authorities to support its planned business operations. Operating Authority dictates the type of operation a company may run and the cargo it may carry.

**Carriers not required to have operating authority include:**

- Private carriers (carriers that transport their own cargo)
- "For-hire" carriers that exclusively haul exempt commodities (cargo that is not federally regulated)
- Carriers that operate exclusively within a federally designated "commercial zone" that is exempt from interstate authority rules. A commercial zone is, for example, a geographic territory that includes multiple states bordering on a major metropolitan city, such as Virginia/Maryland/Washington, DC.

## OPERATING AUTHORITY PACKAGES

### Package "Motor Carrier"

**\$650**



#### INCLUDES:

- 🚩 US DOT#
- 🚩 MC#
- 🚩 BOC-3
- 🚩 UCR for Current Year (1-2 Motor Vehicles)
- 🚩 Safety Planner

### Package "Freight Broker"

**\$650**



#### INCLUDES:

- 🚩 US DOT#
- 🚩 MC#
- 🚩 BOC-3
- 🚩 UCR for Current Year
- 🚩 Freight Broker Starter Kit