

Are you “fit” to drive? For a commercial motor vehicle driver, it’s more than a question about physical well-being. It’s about having the proper license, being trained, understanding English, and having a clean record and a valid medical card. It’s about being fully qualified *every time* you get behind the wheel.

Are YOU Fit To Drive?

The following are the most common driver fitness violations cited during roadside inspections, along with the weight (severity) they carry in the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration’s CSA grading system. The higher the severity, the more it will harm your Driver Fitness BASIC score, *and* that of your employer.

No.	Description	Severity
1.	No medical card	1
2.	Non-English-speaking driver	4
3.	Expired medical card	1
4.	Driving without a CDL	8
5.	Wrong license type	8
6.	Driving while disqualified (§391.15)	8
7.	Driver not physically qualified	2
8.	Unqualified driver (§391.11)	8
9.	Driving while disqualified (§383.51)	8
10.	Wrong CDL class	8

Keeping Your Score Low

Staying qualified takes work, but your score on Driver Fitness – and your career – depends on it. The following reminders can help you pass your next roadside inspection *and* improve your score on Driver Fitness:

- **If you’re qualified, prove it!** Always carry your medical card and driver’s license when driving a CMV.
- **Watch those expiration dates.** Your license and medical card are invalid after their expiration dates — there is no grace period!
- **Avoid the “red flags”!** The FMCSA pays particular attention to these violations, so steer clear of them: having more than one CDL, driving with an invalid license, driving while disqualified, or falsifying a medical card.
- **Stay fit, so you can pass your medical exams.**
- **Is your license valid?** If you’ve lost your privilege to drive, stay off the road!
- **Are you trained?** If you deal with hazardous materials, training and re-training is required.
- **Carry the right license.** Make sure your license is good for each vehicle operated.
- **Notify your carrier.** If your license to drive has been revoked, suspended, or withdrawn, you must notify your employer by the end of the next business day.
- **Notify your licensing state of any convictions,** as required under §383.31.

Driver Fitness & CSA

- The Driver Fitness BASIC does *not* involve any new physical standards that you have to meet.
- There are 30 possible driver fitness violations that can harm your score.
- Violations will affect your CSA score for 36 months and your employer’s score for 24 months. Scores are updated every 30 days.
- The more time that passes since your last violation, and the more clean inspections you have, the better your score will be.
- Most of the “top severity” violations in this BASIC relate to your license: having a single, valid license of the proper type with all required endorsements.



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