



DOT Medical Clearance Request

Suboxone / Buprenorphine (MAT)

In accordance with Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) guidelines, we respectfully request your professional opinion regarding this driver's ability to safely operate a commercial vehicle given their use of **Suboxone / Buprenorphine (MAT)**. Per 49 CFR §391.41(b)(8) and §391.41(b)(12) and the 2024 FMCSA Medical Examiner's Handbook, this condition is recognized as effectively disqualifying due to the risk of sudden loss of consciousness or excessive daytime sleepiness that may impair the safe operation of a commercial motor vehicle. The medical examiner requires specialist documentation prior to making a certification determination.

PATIENT NAME	DATE OF BIRTH

FMCSA Guidelines — Suboxone / Buprenorphine (MAT)

Note: Per the 2024 FMCSA Medical Examiner's Handbook, buprenorphine (Suboxone, Subutex) is no longer an automatic disqualifier for DOT medical certification. It is evaluated on a case-by-case basis under the functional impairment framework. The medical examiner must determine whether the medication at its current prescribed dose causes sedation, cognitive impairment, or psychomotor slowing that would interfere with the safe operation of a commercial motor vehicle. A minimum of 12 months of stable dosing is the clinical benchmark for certification consideration.

For certification, please confirm:

- Confirmed diagnosis of Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) with current prescribed buprenorphine product (Suboxone, Subutex, or generic), current dose in mg, and formulation (film, tablet, or injectable)
- Driver has been on a stable buprenorphine dose for a minimum of 12 months with no dose changes, no missed doses, and no supplemental opioid use during this period
- Underlying cause has been identified and is currently being treated or has resolved
- No positive urine drug screen for non-prescribed controlled substances, illicit opioids, or alcohol within the past 12 months
- Current buprenorphine dose does not cause sedation, cognitive impairment, or psychomotor slowing during working hours — prescriber attestation required at current prescribed dose
- Driver is under active care of the prescribing provider with regular follow-up appointments and treatment compliance confirmed

The following are disqualifying:

- Active opioid use disorder with ongoing illicit opioid use — buprenorphine treatment is not yet stabilized or compliance has not been established
- Less than 12 months at a stable buprenorphine dose — insufficient stability period for CMV certification consideration
- Positive urine drug screen for illicit opioids, non-prescribed controlled substances, or alcohol within the past 12 months
- Buprenorphine prescribed for chronic pain management rather than OUD treatment — **the MAT certification framework applies only to OUD treatment, not opioid pain management**
- Observable sedation, cognitive impairment, slurred speech, or psychomotor slowing at the time of today's examination — regardless of reported dose stability



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Commercial Driver Physical Demands

Commercial motor vehicle operation places substantial physical demands on drivers that extend well beyond the act of driving. Drivers are routinely required to load and unload cargo, couple and uncouple trailers requiring full range of motion to climb, grip, and pull, lift and install tire chains weighing between 35 and 90 pounds, and tarp open trailers requiring lifting motions of 50 to 100 pounds — often after extended periods of sitting without a stretching period. In addition to these labor demands, drivers must maintain sustained perceptual alertness, control an oversized steering wheel, operate manual transmissions, maneuver large vehicles in confined spaces, and safely enter and exit the cab, which is physically comparable to climbing a ladder. These combined physical and cognitive demands should be carefully considered when determining this driver's fitness for commercial driving duties.

Provider Certification

- ☐ **CLEARED** — The driver meets the above requirements and in my clinical opinion is medically cleared to safely operate a commercial motor vehicle.
- ☐ **NOT CLEARED** — The driver does not meet the above requirements and in my clinical opinion cannot safely operate a commercial motor vehicle at this time.
- ☐ **CLEARED WITH DISCRETION** — The driver does not meet one or more guidelines; however, in my clinical opinion the driver is safe to operate a commercial motor vehicle for the following reason(s):

PROVIDER NAME (PRINT)

SPECIALTY / TITLE

DATE

PROVIDER SIGNATURE

ADDRESS (CITY, STATE, ZIP)

PHONE / FAX

This form must be completed and signed prior to the scheduled examination date. A physician office stamp is strongly recommended to validate the authenticity of this document. Incomplete or unstamped forms may delay the certification process. Thank you for your cooperation in supporting the safe operation of commercial motor vehicles on our nation's roadways. [RoadReadyMed.com](https://www.RoadReadyMed.com)