



DOT Medical Clearance Request

Stroke / Cerebrovascular Accident (CVA) / TIA

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 history of **Stroke / Cerebrovascular Accident (CVA) / Transient Ischemic Attack (TIA)**. The medical examiner will use your clinical input to determine whether this driver's condition and treatment are unlikely to interfere with the ability to safely operate a commercial motor vehicle.

PATIENT NAME	DATE OF BIRTH

FMCSA Guidelines — Stroke / CVA / TIA

Note: Per the 2024 FMCSA Handbook, cerebrovascular disease is evaluated on a case-by-case basis. The 2024 Handbook does not assign waiting periods based solely on lesion location. Certification is determined by the presence of neurological residuals, seizure history, recurrence risk, and functional status. Neurologist evaluation is required. Stroke recurrence rate is approximately 10–15% within the first year; about half of post-TIA strokes occur within 12 months.

Minimum Waiting Periods by Event Type (2024 Advisory Criteria):

Event Type	Minimum Waiting Period
TIA (no residuals)	1 month minimum; neurologist clearance required
Ischemic stroke, minimal/no residuals	3 months minimum; neurologist clearance required
Hemorrhagic stroke (ICH/SAH)	6–12 months minimum; higher seizure risk — must meet seizure-free criteria if seizures occurred
Any stroke with post-event seizure	Seizure-free for 8 years on or off medication (moderate-to-high risk factor per 2024 Advisory Criteria)
Stroke with moderate-to-major residuals	Not certifiable until deficits resolve to level compatible with safe CMV operation, if ever

For certification, please confirm:

- **Event type and etiology:** TIA, ischemic stroke (embolic or thrombotic), or hemorrhagic stroke (ICH or SAH); confirmed underlying etiology
- Date of event and confirmation that the applicable minimum waiting period has been met per the table above
- Whether any neurological residuals are present — cognitive impairment, memory loss, judgment deficits, attention or concentration difficulties, limb weakness, vision loss, or speech impairment
- Whether any seizures have occurred post-event; if so, date of last seizure, antiseizure medication status, and whether a diagnosis of epilepsy has been established
- **Lesion location:** cortical and subcortical lesions carry elevated seizure risk; cerebellar and brainstem lesions generally do not
- Treatment has been shown to be adequate, effective, safe, and stable including antiplatelet, anticoagulant, and antihypertensive therapy

The following are disqualifying:

- Minimum waiting period not yet met based on event type (see table above)
- Any cognitive impairment, judgment deficit, or attention and concentration impairment likely to interfere with the safe operation of a CMV
- Any limb weakness sufficient to impair physical control of a commercial motor vehicle

- Post-event seizure — requires 8-year seizure-free period (moderate-to-high risk factor per 2024 Advisory Criteria); a seizure following stroke may constitute a diagnosis of epilepsy
- Visual impairment not meeting FMCSA vision standards (20/40 acuity in at least one eye, 70-degree field of vision)
- Fatigue or prolonged work hours likely to exaggerate neurological residuals to the point of impairing safe driving
- High neurologist-assessed recurrence risk sufficient to cause loss of consciousness or loss of ability to control a CMV

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)