

CRASH PREVENTABILITY

Determination Program



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

CRASH TYPE ELIGIBILITY GUIDE

The Crash Preventability Determination Program (CPDP) accepts 21 different crash types. FMCSA expanded the CPDP on December 1, 2024. Crashes on or after this date follow the new eligibility list, while those prior are reviewed under the previous standards. FMCSA cannot review crashes older than 5 years. This is noted under each of these crash types within this document. FMCSA uses eligibility standards to ensure that crashes can be reviewed and analyzed consistently.

This guide provides the requirements of each crash type and some examples to help you determine if your crash is eligible for submission to the CPDP but does not include all crash scenarios that may be eligible. Please remember, if your crash is not eligible under one crash type, it may be eligible under another. However, if you submit a Request for Data Review (RDR) in DataQs for a crash that does not qualify for any of the eligible crash types, FMCSA will not review the RDR for preventability and it will be closed.

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STRUCK IN THE REAR EXAMPLES

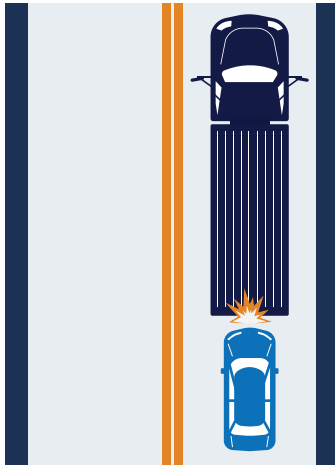
For a crash to be eligible under struck in the rear:

- The vehicle must have been traveling behind the commercial motor vehicle (CMV) prior to striking the CMV.

Struck in the Rear

✓ ELIGIBLE

The vehicle that struck the CMV was driving directly behind the CMV and failed to stop in time.

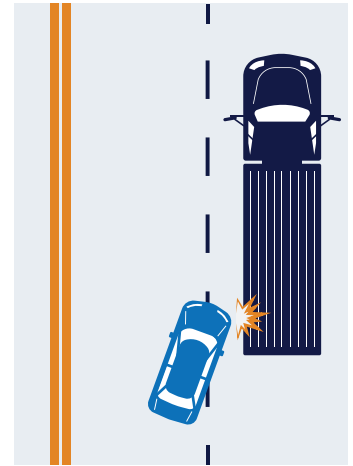


Rear Side Crash

✗ NOT ELIGIBLE

The vehicle that struck the CMV was traveling next to the CMV prior to the crash and struck the CMV on the side between the rear set of wheels and back corner of the CMV.

This scenario may be eligible under the Struck on the Side at the Rear crash type.

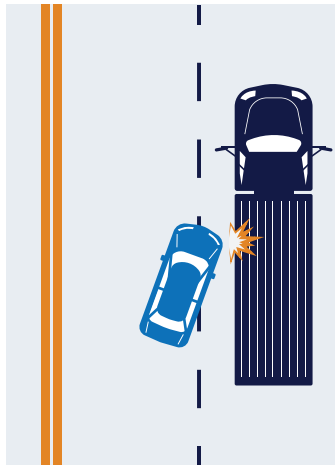


Struck on the Side

✗ NOT ELIGIBLE

The vehicle struck the CMV in front of the rear set of wheels.

This scenario may be eligible under the Struck on the Side (Same Direction) crash type.



STRUCK ON THE SIDE AT THE REAR EXAMPLES

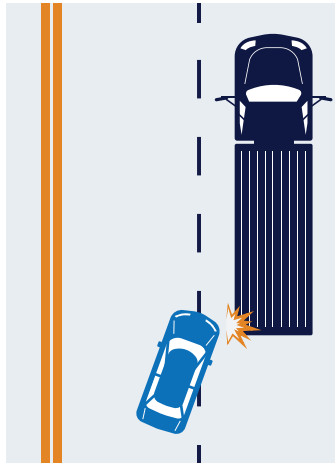
For a crash to be eligible under struck on side at rear:

- The vehicle must have been operating behind the CMV prior to striking; and
- Struck the CMV between the rear set of wheels and back corner of the CMV (e.g., at the 5:00 or 7:00 positions).

Struck on the Side at the Rear

✓ ELIGIBLE

The vehicle was changing lanes to move behind the CMV and struck the CMV at the rear left corner.



Struck on the Side at the Rear

✓ ELIGIBLE

The vehicle was merging into traffic and struck the CMV at the rear right corner.

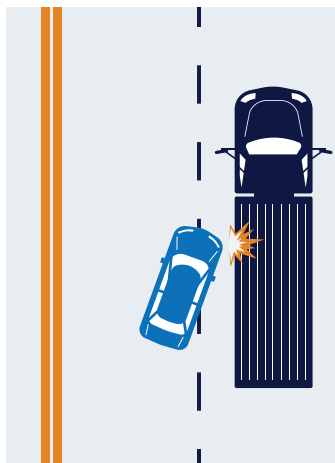


Struck on the Side

✗ NOT ELIGIBLE

The vehicle struck the CMV in front of the rear set of wheels.

This scenario may be eligible under the [Struck on the Side \(Same Direction\)](#) crash type.



STRUCK ON THE SIDE (SAME DIRECTION) EXAMPLES

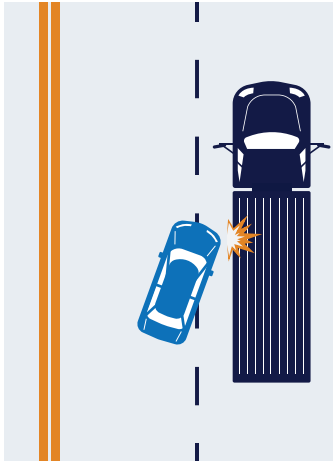
For a crash to be eligible under struck on the side (same direction):

- The vehicle must have been operating in the same direction as the CMV; and
- Struck the CMV in the side (e.g., at the 2:00, 3:00, 4:00, 8:00, 9:00, or 10:00 positions).
- Occurred on or after December 1, 2024.

Struck on the Side

✓ ELIGIBLE

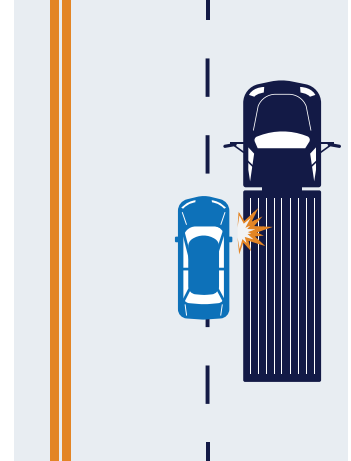
The vehicle struck the CMV on the side while traveling in the same direction at the time of the crash.



Side Swipe (Same Direction):

✓ ELIGIBLE

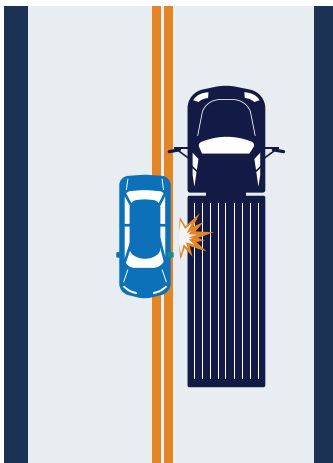
The vehicle traveling in the same direction as the CMV on a double laned road crossed the dotted line and side swiped the CMV.



Opposing Direction Sideswipe

✗ NOT ELIGIBLE

The vehicle that struck the CMV was not operating in the same direction when it side-swiped the CMV.



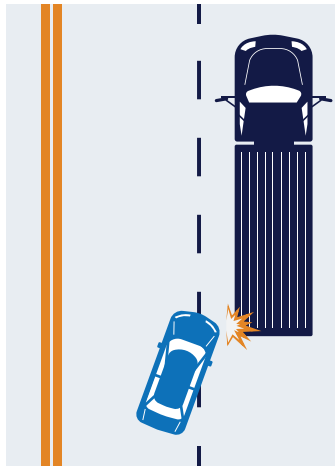
STRUCK ON THE SIDE (SAME DIRECTION) EXAMPLES (CONTINUED)

Struck on the Side at the Rear

✗ NOT ELIGIBLE

The vehicle was changing lanes to move behind the CMV and struck the CMV at the rear left corner.

This scenario may be eligible under the Struck on the Side at the Rear crash type, depending on where at the rear the CMV was struck.

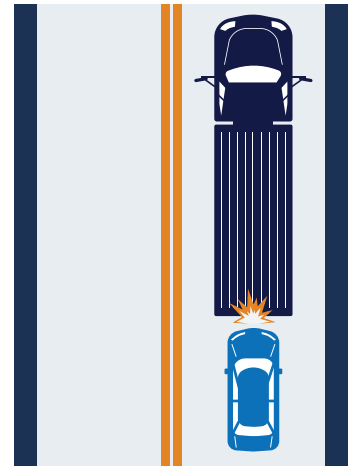


Struck in the Rear

✗ NOT ELIGIBLE

The vehicle that struck the CMV was driving directly behind the CMV and failed to stop in time.

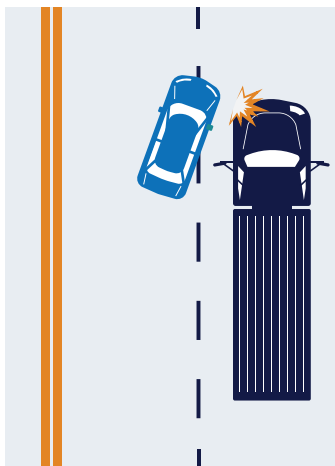
This scenario may be eligible under the Struck in the Rear crash type.



Struck in the Front

✗ NOT ELIGIBLE

The vehicle that struck the CMV was driving in the same direction as the CMV when it struck the CMV in front of the CMV's wheels.



WRONG DIRECTION EXAMPLES

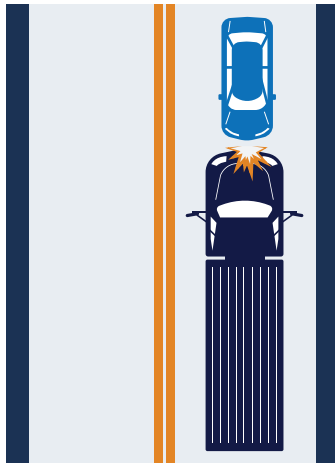
For a crash to be eligible under wrong direction:

- The vehicle in the crash was driving in the wrong direction (e.g., northbound in the southbound lanes); and
- The vehicle was completely in the wrong lane (i.e., not partially across the center line).

Over Center Line

✓ ELIGIBLE

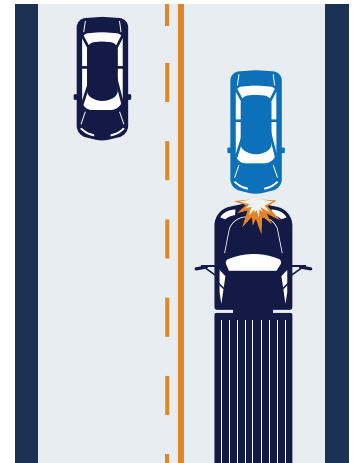
The vehicle that struck the CMV was **completely** over the center line and traveling in the wrong direction when the crash occurred.



Over Center Line

✓ ELIGIBLE

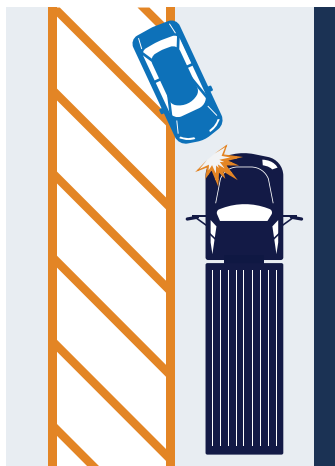
The vehicle that struck the CMV was over the center passing line and traveling in the wrong direction when the crash occurred.



Crossed the Median

✓ ELIGIBLE

The vehicle that struck the CMV drove over the median and was traveling in the wrong direction when the crash occurred.

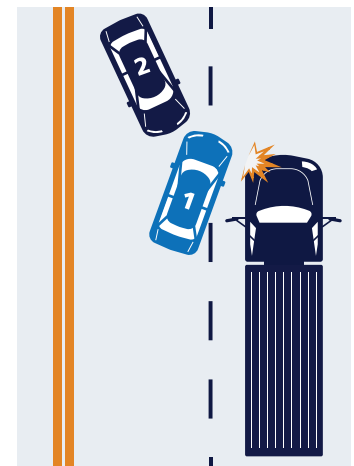


Wrong Direction Multi-Vehicle Crash

✓ ELIGIBLE

Vehicle #1 was traveling in the same direction as the CMV on a multi-lane road.

Vehicle #2 was traveling southbound in the northbound lanes, and struck vehicle #1 causing vehicle #1 to strike the CMV.

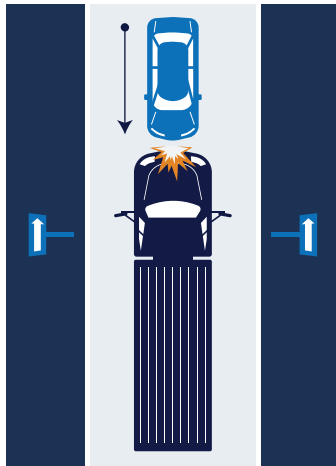


WRONG DIRECTION EXAMPLES (CONTINUED)

One-Way Street

✓ ELIGIBLE

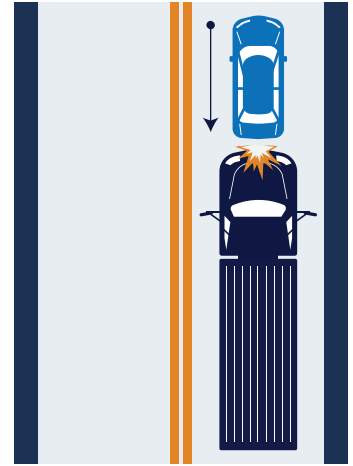
The vehicle that struck the CMV was driving the wrong way on a one-way street.



Other Vehicle in Reverse

✓ ELIGIBLE

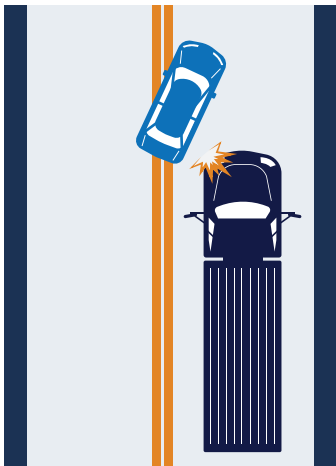
The vehicle that struck the CMV was traveling in reverse.



Struck CMV While Passing

✓ ELIGIBLE

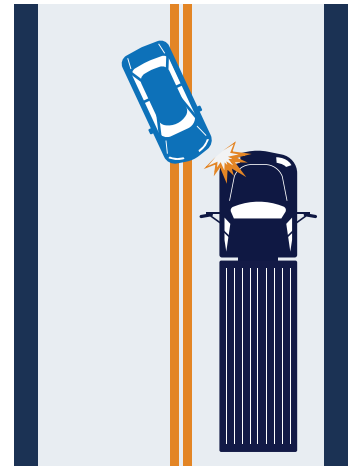
The vehicle traveling in the same direction as the CMV attempted to overtake the CMV by completely crossing the center line and traveling in the wrong direction. When reentering the correct lane of travel, the vehicle struck the CMV.



Not Fully Over Center Line

✗ NOT ELIGIBLE

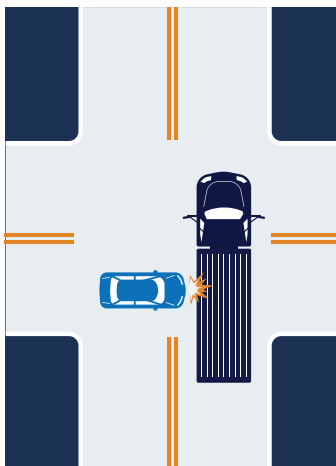
The vehicle that struck the CMV was not completely over the center line when the crash occurred.



CMV Struck in Intersection

✗ NOT ELIGIBLE

The vehicle that struck the CMV was traveling in the correct direction and in the correct lane.

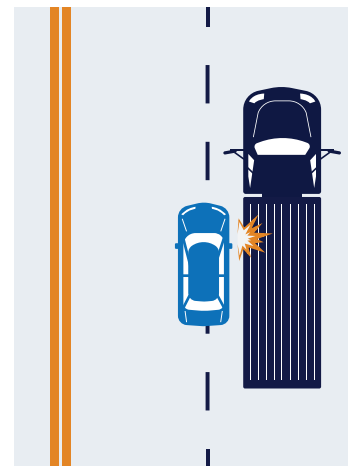


Side Swipe (Same Direction):

✗ NOT ELIGIBLE

The vehicle traveling in the same direction as the CMV on a double laned road crossed the dotted line and side swiped the CMV.

This scenario may be eligible under the Struck on the Side (Same Direction) crash type.



WRONG DIRECTION EXAMPLES (CONTINUED)

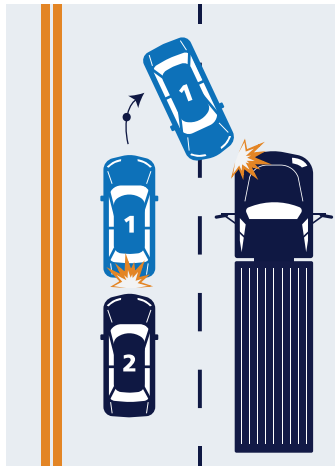
Spin Out into CMV's Lane

✗ NOT ELIGIBLE

Vehicle #1 and vehicle #2 were traveling in the same direction as the CMV on a multi-lane road.

Vehicle #2 crashed into vehicle #1 causing it to spin and strike the CMV.

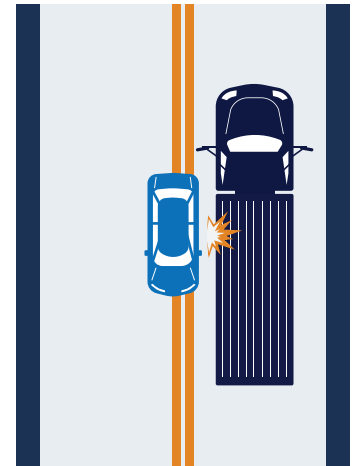
This scenario may be eligible under the [Another Motorist Lost Control of Vehicle](#) crash type.



Opposing Direction Sideswipe

✗ NOT ELIGIBLE

The vehicle that struck the CMV was not completely over the center line when it side-swiped the CMV.



U-TURN AND ILLEGAL TURNS EXAMPLES

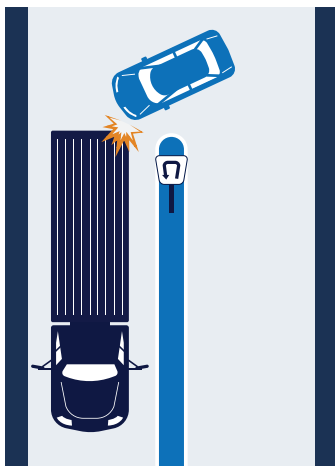
For a crash to be eligible under u-turn and illegal turns:

- The CMV was struck because a vehicle that was making a u-turn; or
- The CMV was struck by a vehicle making an illegal turn. In order to be considered an illegal turn, it must be documented in the police accident report (PAR) or through other evidence that the turn was not legally allowed.

U-Turn

✓ ELIGIBLE

The CMV was struck by a vehicle making a u-turn.

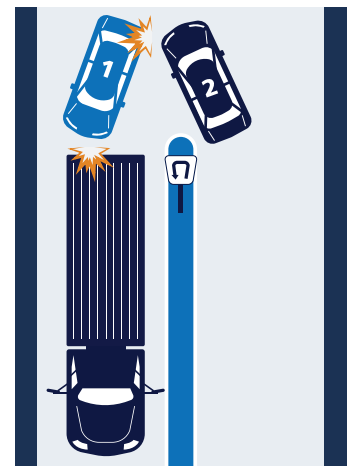


U-Turn by Another Motorist

✓ ELIGIBLE

The CMV was struck by vehicle #1 when vehicle #2 made a u-turn and struck vehicle #1.

This scenario is eligible for crashes occurring on or after December 1, 2024.



U-TURN AND ILLEGAL TURNS EXAMPLES (CONTINUED)

Illegal Turn

✓ ELIGIBLE

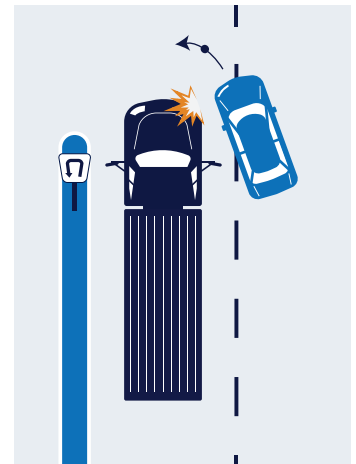
The CMV was struck while making a wide right turn by a vehicle attempting to get in front of the CMV by making a right turn on the shoulder.



U-Turn from Non-Left Lane

✓ ELIGIBLE

The CMV was traveling in the left lane when the vehicle in the right lane struck the CMV while attempting to make a u-turn.

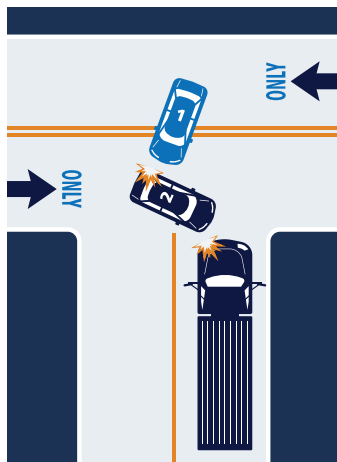


Illegal Turn by Another Motorist

✓ ELIGIBLE

Vehicle #1 was making an illegal left turn when it struck vehicle #2, causing vehicle #2 to strike the CMV.

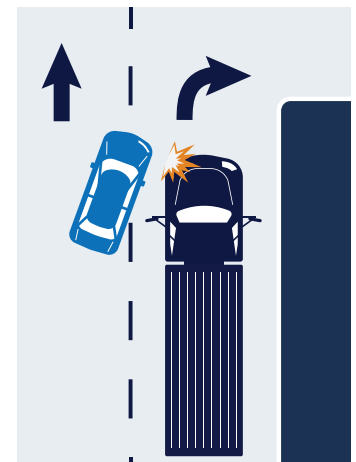
This scenario is eligible for crashes occurring on or after December 1, 2024.



Illegal Right Turn

✓ ELIGIBLE

The vehicle traveling in the lane next to the CMV made an illegal right turn in front of the CMV, striking it.



Illegal Turn

✓ ELIGIBLE

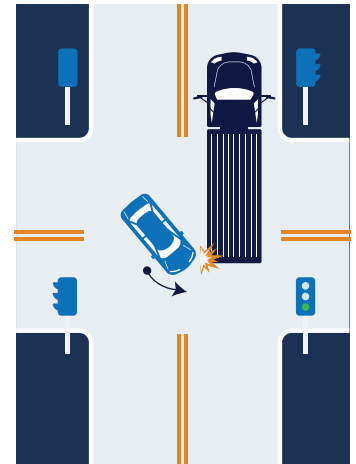
The CMV was struck by a vehicle making an illegal turn.



Legal Turn

✗ NOT ELIGIBLE

The vehicle that struck the CMV was making a legal turn improperly at the time of the crash.



STRUCK WHILE PARKED OR LEGALLY STOPPED EXAMPLES

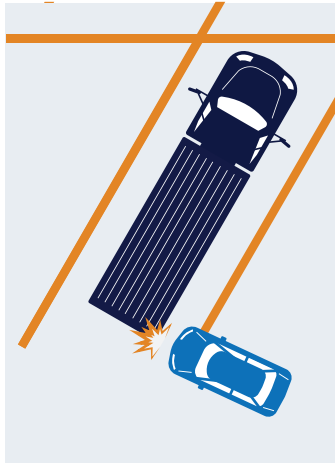
For a crash to be eligible under struck while parked or legally stopped:

- The CMV was parked, including when the vehicle was unattended; or
- The CMV was stopped at a traffic control device (e.g., stop sign, red light, yield, railroad crossing, or school bus).

Struck While Parked

✓ ELIGIBLE

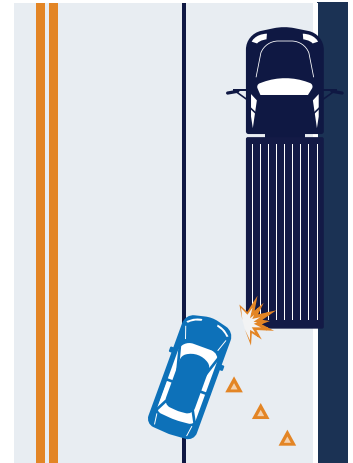
The CMV was parked in a parking space when the vehicle struck the CMV. If the vehicle was illegally parked this will result in a Preventable determination.



Struck While Parked

✓ ELIGIBLE

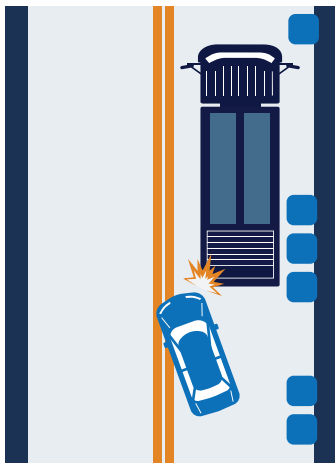
The CMV was parked in the breakdown lane when the vehicle struck the CMV.



Struck While Parked

✓ ELIGIBLE

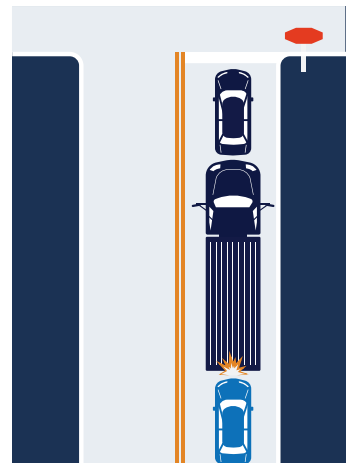
The CMV was parked and struck by a vehicle while employees were performing their duties (e.g., garbage truck, delivery truck, etc.).



Legally Stopped

✓ ELIGIBLE

The CMV was struck by a vehicle while stopped in a line of traffic at a traffic control device.

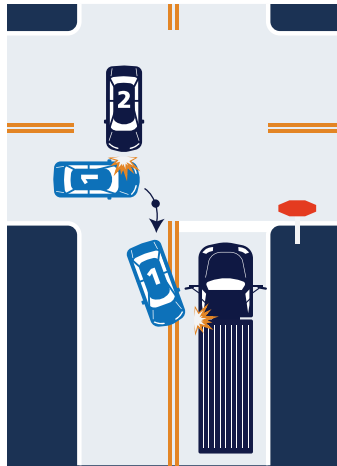


STRUCK WHILE PARKED OR LEGALLY STOPPED EXAMPLES (CONTINUED)

Legally Stopped

✓ ELIGIBLE

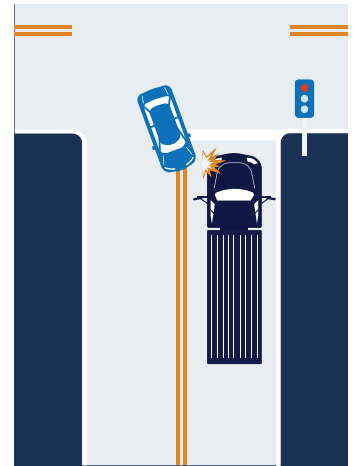
Vehicle #1 is struck by vehicle #2, causing vehicle #1 to strike the CMV while it is stopped at a traffic control device.



Legally Stopped

✓ ELIGIBLE

The CMV was stopped at a traffic control device and was struck by a vehicle making a wide turn.



Legally Stopped

✓ ELIGIBLE

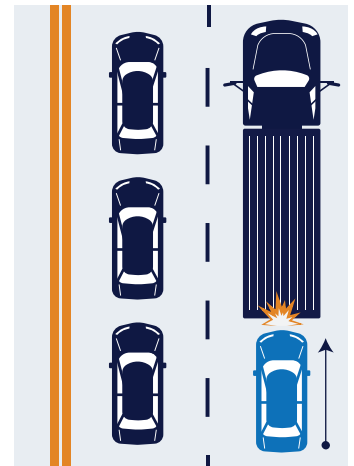
The CMV was struck by a vehicle when stopped at a traffic control device.



Stopped in Traffic

✗ NOT ELIGIBLE

The CMV was struck while stopped in traffic. This scenario may be eligible under other crash types.



FAILURE OF THE OTHER VEHICLE TO STOP EXAMPLES

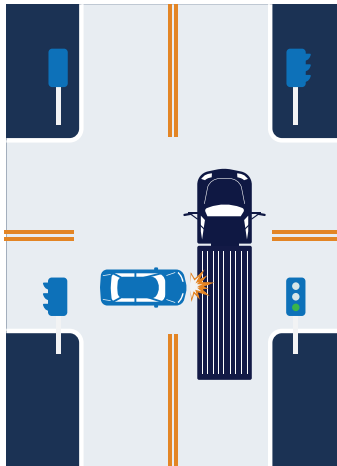
For a crash to be eligible under failure of the other vehicle to stop:

- The CMV was struck by a vehicle that failed to stop at a traffic control device; or
- The CMV was struck by a vehicle that did not stop or slow in traffic.
 - Heavy traffic must be documented in evidence (e.g., PAR, video, etc.) submitted with the RDR.
 - Normal highway volumes are not considered traffic.

Failure of Other Vehicle to Stop at a Traffic Control Device

✓ ELIGIBLE

The vehicle that struck the CMV failed to stop at a traffic control device.



Failure of Another Vehicle to Stop at a Traffic Control Device

✓ ELIGIBLE

Vehicle #1 failed to stop at a red light and struck vehicle #2. Vehicle #2 then struck the CMV.

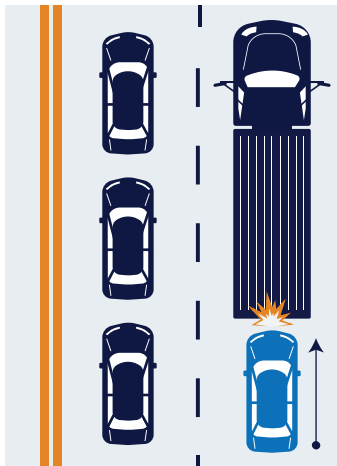
This scenario is eligible for crashes occurring on or after December 1, 2024.



Stopped in Traffic

✓ ELIGIBLE

The vehicle that struck the CMV failed to stop in high-volume traffic.

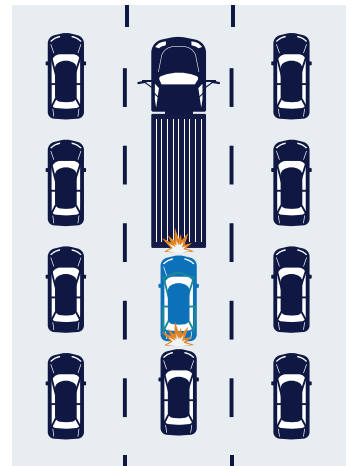


Stopped in Traffic

✓ ELIGIBLE

The vehicle that struck the CMV was struck by a vehicle that failed to stop in high-volume traffic.

This scenario is eligible for crashes occurring on or after December 1, 2024.



FAILURE OF THE OTHER VEHICLE TO STOP EXAMPLES (CONTINUED)

Failure of Other Vehicle to Stop

✓ ELIGIBLE

The vehicle that struck the CMV failed to stop while traveling across a road with a median divider.

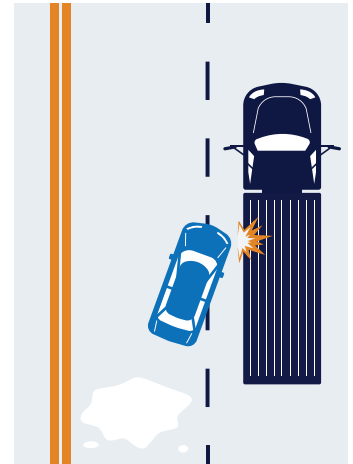


Lost Control in Normal Traffic

✗ NOT ELIGIBLE

The vehicle lost control in normal traffic and struck the CMV.

This scenario may be eligible under the Vehicle Lost Control crash type.

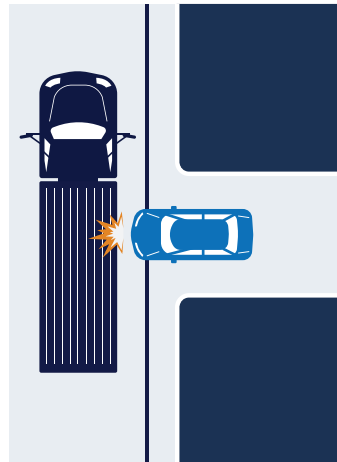


Exiting Driveway with No Signage

✗ NOT ELIGIBLE

The vehicle that struck the CMV was exiting a driveway or parking lot with no signage.

This scenario may be eligible under the Struck by Vehicle Entering Roadway From Private Drive/Parking Lot crash type.



UNDER THE INFLUENCE EXAMPLES

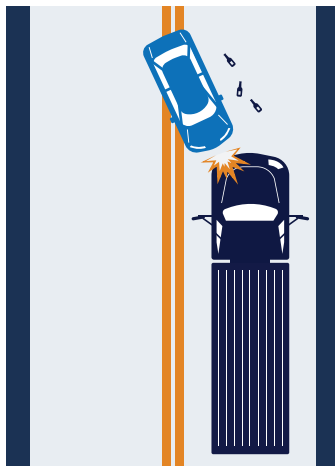
For a crash to be eligible under the under the influence examples:

- The CMV was struck because another individual was under the influence (or related violation, such as operating while intoxicated), according to the legal standard of the jurisdiction where the crash occurred.
- There must be evidence provided that a driver who was involved in the crash was arrested or charged with a DUI or DWI because of a failed field sobriety or other test, or refused to test.

Struck by a Driver Under the Influence

✓ ELIGIBLE

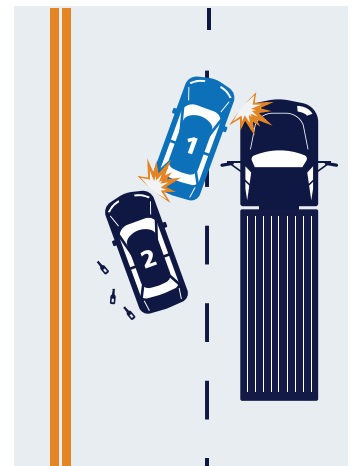
The CMV was struck by a driver who was arrested for being under the influence, and this was documented in the PAR.



Struck by a Vehicle that was Hit by a Driver Under the Influence

✓ ELIGIBLE

Vehicle #1 struck the CMV because it was involved in a crash with a driver in vehicle #2 who failed a field sobriety test, and this was documented in the PAR.



Lack of Documentation

✗ NOT ELIGIBLE

The PAR does not document that the driver that struck the CMV or contributed to the crash was under the influence as documented by an arrest, citation, failed sobriety test, or refusal of test. Open containers, contributing factors, or officer opinion are not enough to qualify.



MEDICAL ISSUES, FALLING ASLEEP, OR DISTRACTED DRIVING EXAMPLES

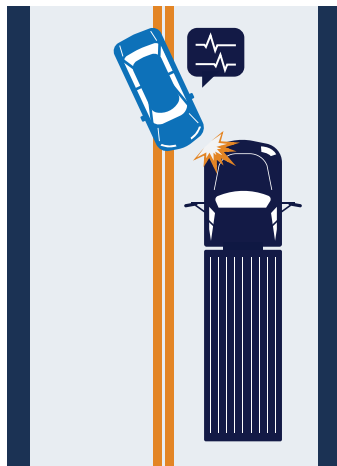
For a crash to be eligible under medical issues, falling asleep, or distracted driving:

- A driver who was involved in the crash experienced a medical issue which contributed to the crash; or
- A driver who was involved in the crash fell asleep; or
- A driver who was involved in the crash was distracted (e.g., using a cellphone, GPS, eating, etc.).

Medical Issue

✓ ELIGIBLE

The CMV was struck by a driver who experienced a medical issue that was documented in the PAR.

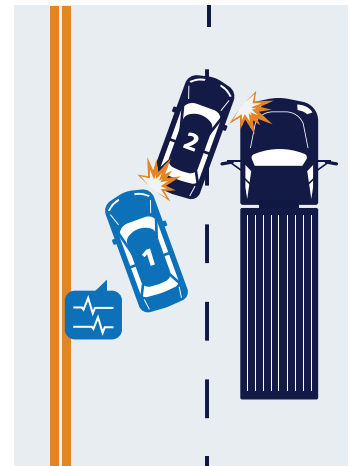


Medical Issue

✓ ELIGIBLE

Another motorist in vehicle #1 struck vehicle #2 while experiencing a medical issue, causing vehicle #2 to strike the CMV. The medical issue was documented in the PAR.

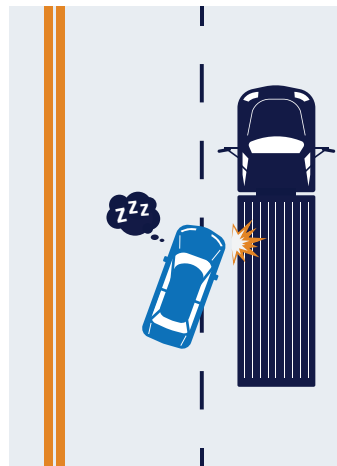
This scenario is eligible for crashes occurring on or after December 1, 2024.



Falling Asleep

✓ ELIGIBLE

The CMV was struck by a driver who fell asleep, and this was documented in the PAR.

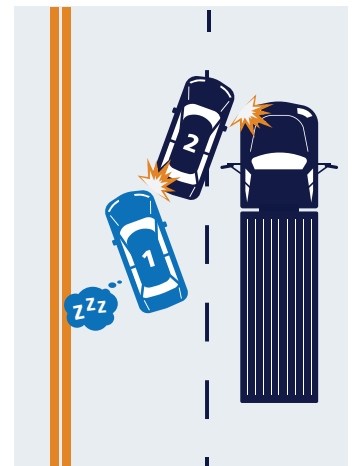


Falling Asleep

✓ ELIGIBLE

Another motorist in vehicle #1 was falling asleep or dozing off and struck vehicle #2, causing vehicle #2 to strike the CMV. The motorist falling asleep was documented in the PAR.

This scenario is eligible for crashes occurring on or after December 1, 2024.



MEDICAL ISSUES, FALLING ASLEEP, OR DISTRACTED DRIVING EXAMPLES (CONTINUED)

Distracted Driving

✓ ELIGIBLE

The CMV was struck by a driver who was texting while driving, and this was documented on the PAR.



Distracted Driving

✓ ELIGIBLE

Another motorist in vehicle #1 was texting while driving and struck vehicle #2, causing vehicle #2 to strike the CMV. The motorist texting was documented in the PAR.

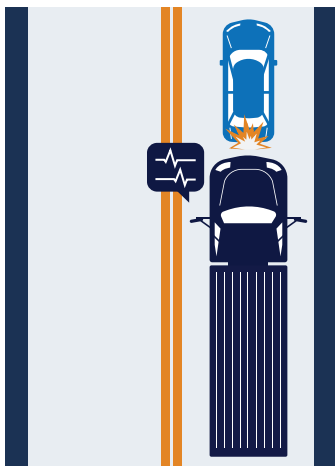
This scenario is eligible for crashes occurring on or after December 1, 2024.



CMV Driver Experienced Medical Issue

✗ NOT ELIGIBLE

The CMV driver experienced a medical issue which contributed to the crash.



CARGO/EQUIPMENT/DEBRIS OR INFRASTRUCTURE FAILURE EXAMPLES

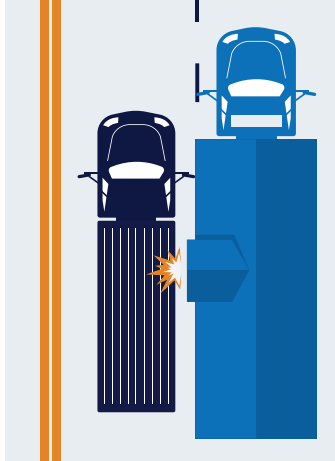
For a crash to be eligible under cargo/equipment/debris or infrastructure failure:

- The CMV was struck by cargo or equipment from another vehicle or struck debris (e.g., fallen rock, fallen trees, unidentifiable items in the road); or
- The CMV crashed as a result of an infrastructure failure.

Cargo

✓ ELIGIBLE

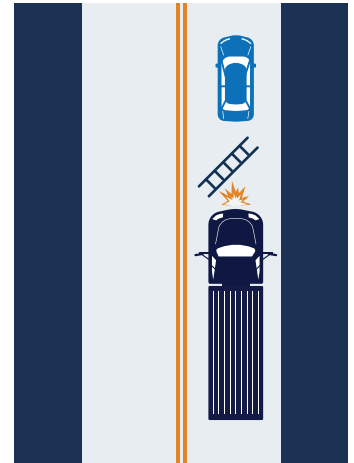
The CMV was struck by another vehicle carrying a wide load.



Cargo

✓ ELIGIBLE

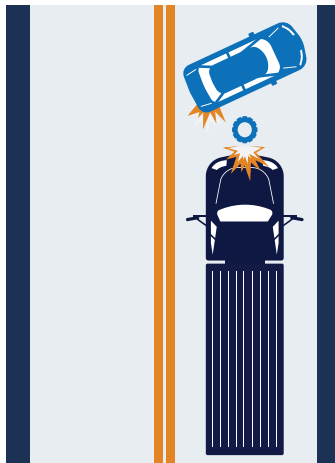
The CMV was struck by cargo that came off of another vehicle.



Equipment

✓ ELIGIBLE

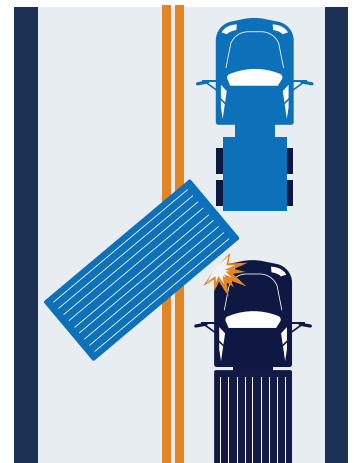
The CMV was struck by a tire that came off of another vehicle.



Equipment

✓ ELIGIBLE

The CMV was struck by a trailer that detached from another truck.



CARGO/EQUIPMENT/DEBRIS OR INFRASTRUCTURE FAILURE EXAMPLES (CONTINUED)

Debris

✓ ELIGIBLE

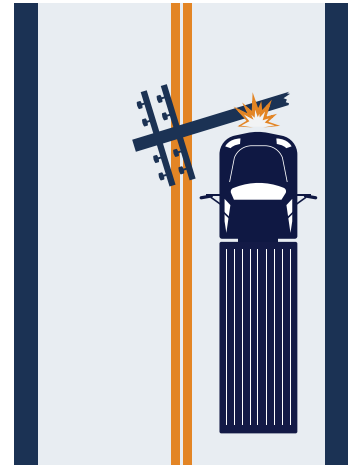
The CMV struck a fallen tree.



Infrastructure Failure

✓ ELIGIBLE

The CMV struck a fallen power line.



Hit by Another Vehicle Involved in an Accident

✗ NOT ELIGIBLE

The CMV was hit by another vehicle that was not cargo.



Crashed Avoiding Debris

✗ NOT ELIGIBLE

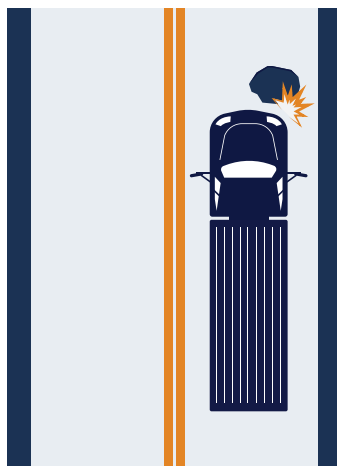
The CMV struck another vehicle avoiding cargo/debris/equipment in the road.



Pothole

✗ NOT ELIGIBLE

The CMV traversed over a normal sized pothole, causing the CMV to crash.



Low Clearance

✗ NOT ELIGIBLE

The CMV crashed traveling under a low clearance bridge, tunnel, etc.



ANIMAL STRIKE EXAMPLES

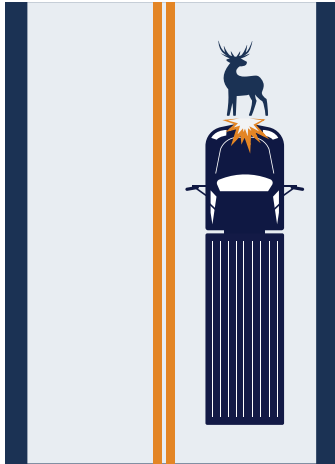
For a crash to be eligible under struck an animal:

- The CMV struck an animal.

Struck an Animal

✓ ELIGIBLE

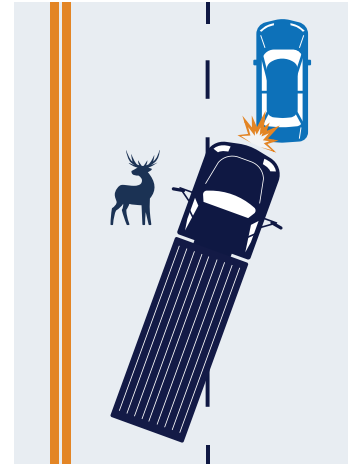
The CMV struck the animal.



Avoiding an Animal

✗ NOT ELIGIBLE

The CMV attempted to avoid an animal and crashed into another object or ran off the road.



SUICIDE OR SUICIDE ATTEMPT EXAMPLES

For a crash to be eligible under suicide or suicide attempt:

- The CMV must have struck an individual who died by or attempted suicide (i.e., documentation provides evidence that the individual died by or attempted suicide).

Suicide Attempt

✓ ELIGIBLE

The CMV struck an individual and the PAR, or other provided documents, substantiates that the individual was attempting suicide.



Lack of Documentation

✗ NOT ELIGIBLE

The PAR or other documents provided does not substantiate that the individual struck was attempting suicide.



STRUCK BY VEHICLE ENTERING ROADWAY FROM PRIVATE DRIVE/PARKING LOT EXAMPLES

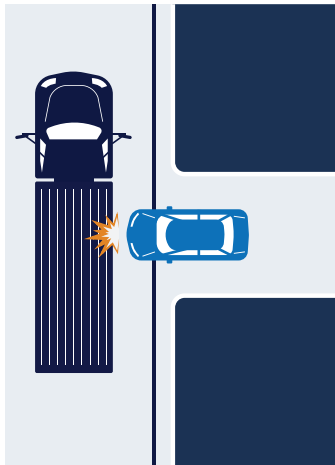
For a crash type to be eligible under the struck by vehicle entering roadway from private drive/parking lot crash type:

- The CMV was struck because another vehicle was entering a public roadway from an uncontrolled private driveway or parking lot.
- Occurred on or after December 1, 2024.

Exiting Driveway with No Signage

✓ ELIGIBLE

The vehicle that struck the CMV was exiting a driveway or parking lot with no stop sign.

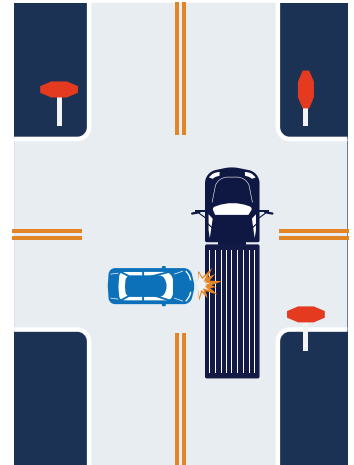


Intersection Missing Stop Sign

✗ NOT ELIGIBLE

The vehicle that struck the CMV did not stop at an intersection because the stop sign was missing.

This crash may be eligible under the [Infrastructure Failure](#) crash type.

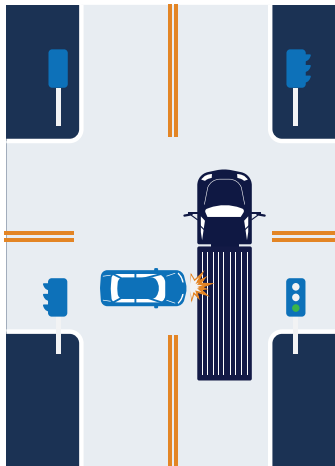


Failure of Other Vehicle to Stop at a Traffic Control Device

✗ NOT ELIGIBLE

The vehicle that struck the CMV failed to stop at a traffic control device.

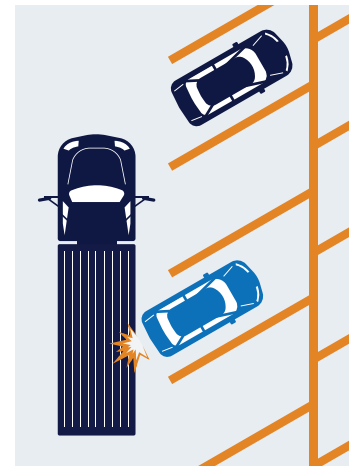
This crash may be eligible under the [Failure of the Other Vehicle to Stop](#) crash type.



CMV Struck in Parking Lot

✗ NOT ELIGIBLE

The CMV was driving through a parking lot when it was struck by another vehicle.

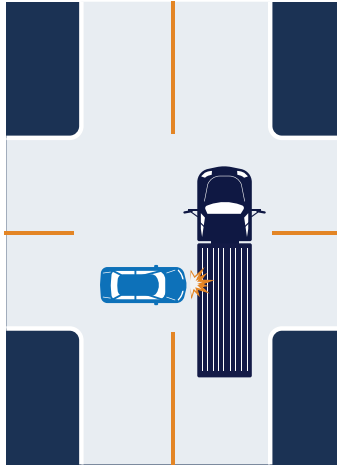


STRUCK BY VEHICLE ENTERING ROADWAY FROM PRIVATE DRIVE/ PARKING LOT EXAMPLES (CONTINUED)

Uncontrolled Intersection

✗ NOT ELIGIBLE

The CMV was struck by a vehicle at an intersection with no traffic control device or signage.



ANOTHER MOTORIST LOST CONTROL OF VEHICLE EXAMPLES

For a crash type to be eligible under the another motorist lost control of vehicle crash type:

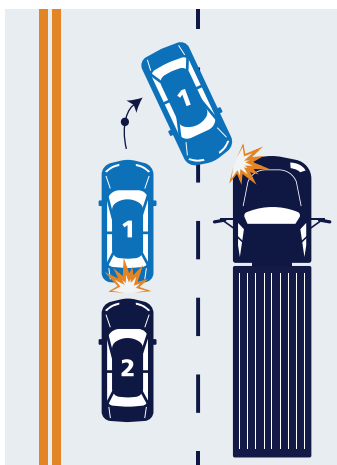
- The CMV was involved in a crash because another driver was documented in the PAR to have lost control of the vehicle.
- Occurred on or after December 1, 2024.

Spin Out into CMV's Lane

✓ ELIGIBLE

Vehicle #1 and vehicle #2 were traveling in the same direction as the CMV on a multi-lane road.

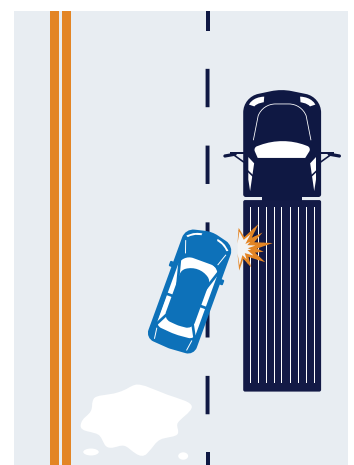
Vehicle #2 crashed into vehicle #1 causing it to spin and strike the CMV.



Lost Control in Normal Traffic

✓ ELIGIBLE

The vehicle lost control in normal traffic and struck the CMV. **It was documented in the PAR narrative** that the vehicle lost control and/or there was a contributing factor.



ANOTHER MOTORIST LOST CONTROL OF VEHICLE EXAMPLES (CONTINUED)

Lost Control in Normal Traffic (Not in PAR)

✗ NOT ELIGIBLE

The vehicle operating in normal traffic struck the CMV but it was not documented in the PAR narrative or code sheet that the driver lost control of the vehicle.



NON-MOTORIST EXAMPLES

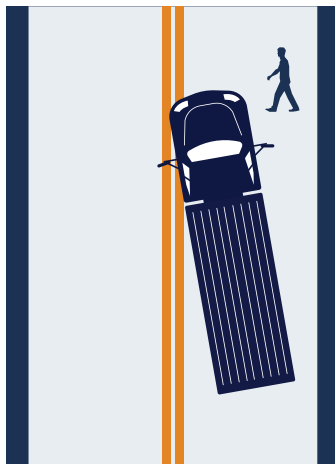
For a crash to be eligible under the pedestrian/non-motorist crash type:

- The CMV was involved in a crash with a non-motorist in the roadway. Non-motorists may include persons walking or on foot, using an accessible mobility device, riding horses, bicycles /electric cycles, skates, scooters, or skateboards.
- The non-motorist involved in the crash was not in a crosswalk or was otherwise somewhere where a non-motorist should not be (e.g., an interstate).
- Occurred on or after December 1, 2024. For crashes that occurred before this date, please submit under the **Rare or Unusual** crash type.

Pedestrian Suddenly Crossing the Street

✓ ELIGIBLE

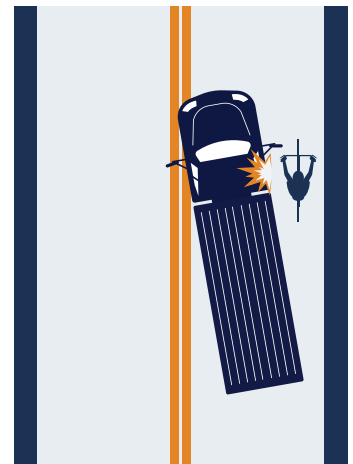
The CMV collided with a pedestrian that suddenly crossed the street.



Cyclist Suddenly Swerving into Traffic

✓ ELIGIBLE

A cyclist suddenly swerved into traffic and collided with the CMV.



RARE OR UNUSUAL EXAMPLES

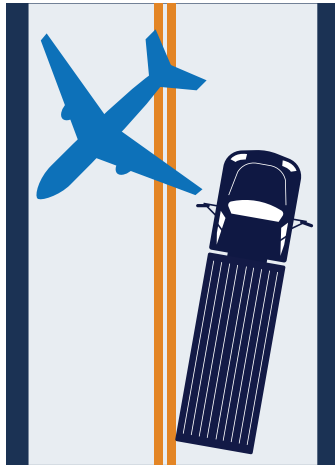
For a crash to be eligible under the pedestrian/non-motorist crash type:

- The crash must be a crash type that seldom occurs and does not meet another eligible crash type.

Plane Landing

✓ ELIGIBLE

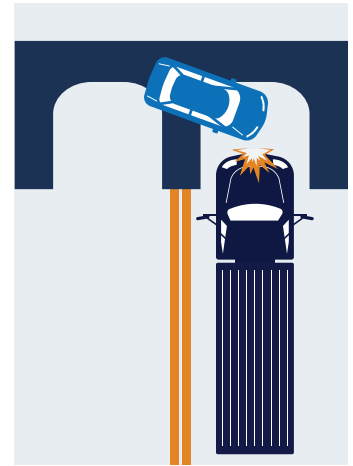
A plane landed on the roadway, causing the CMV to crash.



Vehicle Fell Off Overpass

✓ ELIGIBLE

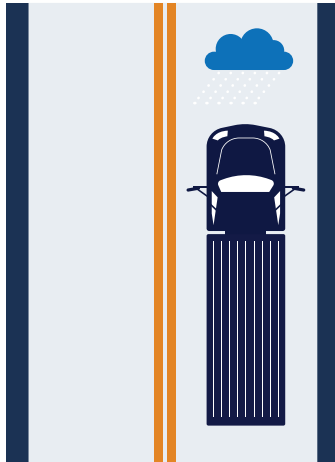
A vehicle fell off an overpass and struck the CMV driving below.



Weather Events (Blizzard, Water/ Snow/Ice on the Roadway, etc.)

✗ NOT ELIGIBLE

The CMV crashed as a result of a blizzard, water/snow/ice on the roadway, or other extreme weather.



VIDEO SUBMISSION EXAMPLES

For a crash to be eligible under video submission:

- Video must show pre-crash, crash, and post-crash sequence of events, including date and timestamp.
- Video has to show striking event occurring.
- Video can be from dash cam, third party, traffic camera, building or nearby business security footage.
- Camera footage must match PAR and include a date/time stamp.
- Crashes should only be submitted under this crash type if it is not eligible under any other crash type in the program. If it falls under another crash type, please submit the crash there with the video as supporting documentation.
- Occurred on or after December 1, 2024.

Video Evidence

✓ ELIGIBLE

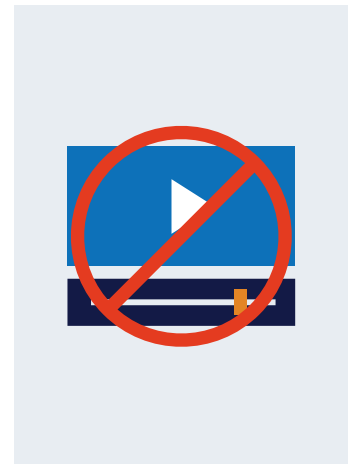
The video provided shows pre-crash, crash, and post-crash sequence of events.



Video Missing Key Events

✗ NOT ELIGIBLE

The video provided does not show the sequence of events before, during or after the crash occurred.



Fits Another Eligible Crash Type

✗ NOT ELIGIBLE

The crash fits one of the other 20 accepted crash types and should be submitted appropriately. Please include the video evidence to support your submission.

