

FMCSA DAMIS Frequently Asked Questions:

The following information are common questions and answers regarding [FMCSA's DAMIS Survey Instructions](#).

US Department of Transportation (DOT) Drug and Alcohol Management Information System

1. What is DAMIS?

DAMIS stands for the US Department of Transportation (DOT) Drug and Alcohol Management Information System which collects and stores data related to drug and alcohol testing results in various DOT transportation modes.

2. What is the purpose of the DAMIS Survey?

As outlined in [49 CFR 382.403](#), FMCSA randomly selects motor carriers from which to collect drug and alcohol testing data. FMCSA uses the data to calculate the random drug and alcohol testing rates for subsequent years. If you received a DAMIS notification letter, you must provide your company's drug and alcohol testing data for the previous calendar year.

3. How does FMCSA use DAMIS Survey data?

The annual survey is used to quantify the incidence of controlled substance use and alcohol misuse in the trucking industry for the previous year. Pursuant to [49 CFR 382.305\(c\) and \(f\)](#) the results of this survey will determine the required minimum rate of controlled substance and alcohol testing for FMCSA-regulated motor carriers.

Filers Determination and Exemptions

4. Who is subject to file a DAMIS Survey?

Per [49 CFR 382.403](#), FMCSA random selected motor carriers must provide U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) drug and alcohol testing information for the previous year.

If you are unsure whether you are subject to file, review the ["Am I Covered"](#) determination link.

5. Who is Exempt from a DAMIS Survey and What should I do?

In the exemption table below carefully review the definition **"My business does not operate any vehicles that require a CDL"**. If you do not meet the definition, examine and determine if you met any of the remaining exemptions in the table.

AM I EXEMPT EXEMPTION TABLE?

Am I Exempt Qualification Reasons	Guidance – Outcome Am I Exempt?
My business does not operate any vehicles that require a CDL; am I exempt from this survey?	YES. Email FMCSA and provide a statement explaining that none of your commercial motor vehicles require a CDL because they are below 26,001 lbs. gross vehicle weight rating or gross combination weight rating including a towed unit; they are not designed to transport 16 or more passengers including the driver, and they do not transport hazardous materials that require placarding. You can use the <u>“AM I COVERED”</u> link to verify if your company is subject to the drug and alcohol requirements. <u>AM I COVERED?</u>
I think my company is exempt. Do I need to respond to the notification letter?	YES. You still need to respond but should mark that you are exempt on the survey form. If you believe you are exempt, you must also mail in a letter stating your reasons for exemption, along with any relevant supporting information. When carriers respond with information about their exemption, FMCSA can determine if the exemption claim is valid. If so, FMCSA will include the carrier in an exemption list so they are no longer sampled. Sending a letter and relevant evidence, if available, can help you avoid future DAMIS survey paperwork. Failing to respond to the survey, or falsely claiming an exemption may trigger additional actions by FMCSA including compliance reviews which may result in fines for non-compliance.
My business is closed; am I exempt from this survey?	MAYBE. Email FMCSA, provide a statement that your business is closed and the date of closure.
I am not exempt, however I am not under FMCSA’s jurisdiction. Do I still file and report my results to FMCSA?	NO. Email FMCSA, provide a statement that your business is not regulated by FMCSA. You must still report your DAMIS survey information to the the DOT agency that regulates your operations.
I am an independent owner-operator and have no employees; am I exempt from this survey?	NO. FMCSA’s regulation at 49 CFR 382.705(b)(6) requires you to join a testing consortium. You should report YOUR individual testing results only when the FMCSA requests them and not that of the entire consortium. There is no owner-operator exemption.
My trucks never leave my state; am I exempt?	NO. Motor carriers that have CDL drivers are required to comply in accordance with FMCSA’s regulation at 49 CFR 382.403.

All my power units are under the GVWR requirement for a CDL, am I exempt from this survey?	IT DEPENDS 1. There are other reasons that a vehicle may require a CDL (for example, vehicles transporting placardable amounts of hazardous materials require a CDL regardless of GVWR). If none of the vehicles operated by a carrier require a CDL, then the carrier is exempt. 2. However, when a carrier makes this exemption claim, FMCSA will check their inspection history to see if any inspections indicate the carrier is operating vehicles that require a CDL. Each year, many of the carriers that make an exemption claim based on GVWR have inspection histories that clearly show they are operating a vehicle above the GVWR requirements for a CDL. These carriers are not exempt. Failure to comply with FMCSRs can result in compliance reviews and fines.
FARMING I have and/or operate a farm. Do I qualify for an agriculture exemption?	IT DEPENDS YES, if your state allows a CDL exemption for farmers, and your farm vehicle meets the following criteria, you are exempt: 1. Controlled and operated by a farmer, including operation by employees or family members; 2. Used to transport either agricultural products, farm machinery, farm supplies, or both to or from a farm; 3. Not used in the operations of a for-hire motor carrier (unless exempt under 49 CFR 390.5T); and 4. Used within 150 miles of the farm. NO, if your equipment is involved in a secondary, non-farming business, then you are not exempt. • For example, a farmer who owns a vehicle requiring a CDL and uses it to move farm machinery or products around. It's also used to move hardscaping equipment for a landscaping company you also own. In this case, the landscaping company is not exempt, because you also own a farm that also uses the commercial motor vehicle. NO, if your farm vehicle operations are not within the criteria set forth in 49 CFR 383.3(d)(1). You may not be eligible for the farmer's exemption simply because your operations are in the agricultural sector. • For example, a carrier that transports farm machinery from a factory to a showroom is not exempt. A carrier must meet the criteria described in 382.103 to be exempt.

Emergency vehicles. Am I exempt from this survey?	MAYBE. You will need to contact your local State driver's licensing agency and verify that you are not required to have a CDL to operate emergency vehicles on the public roads. Email FMCSA, provide a statement that you have verified through your local state CDL licensing agency that you are not required to have a CDL, because these vehicles are for emergency use in the preservation of life.
Mexican & Canadian carriers that do not cross into the US. Am I exempt from this survey?	YES. Email FMCSA, provide a statement that your vehicles that require a CDL never cross the border into the United States at any time.
AM I EXEMPT DETERMINATION RESULT	• I determined I am NOT exempt. Proceed to step #7. If you are not exempt but do not have a DOT drug and alcohol testing program, follow the instruction provided in step #7. If step #7 does not apply to you, skip it and proceed and complete step #8 "How to File". • I determined and verified my exemption status using the "Am I Covered" determination link and exemption table above. I confirmed I am exempt, and I either do not operate any vehicles that require a CDL, or I qualify by another exemption in the table. Proceed and complete step #6 below.

DAMIS Exempt Carrier Instructions

6. Motor Carriers Selected for the DAMIS Survey, but qualify as exempt must:

- Send FMCSA an email to dachclearinghouse@mailag.cx.usg.oraclecloud.com
- Indicate your complete business name, DOT#, and DAMIS EXEMPT 2025 on email subject line.
- **Identify from the table above your qualifying exemption reason and** explain in detail how your organization meets the exemption.

DAMIS Compliance: Controlled Substances and Alcohol Use and Testing

7. *We don't currently have a drug and alcohol testing program in place.*

1. Send FMCSA an email to dachclearinghouse@mailag.cx.usg.oraclecloud.com
2. Indicate your complete business name, DOT #, and DAMIS PRO G R A M 2025 on email subject line.
3. *Submit to FMCSA the precise statement below*

My company did not have a DOT Drug & Alcohol Program during the previous year, therefore has no MIS results to report for the selected year. Currently, I am in the process of getting my drivers in a consortium and/or implementing my own program to be in full compliance with FMCSA's Drug and Alcohol testing regulations for the current year.

COMPLIANCE: 49 CFR Part 382 Regulatory Reference:

<https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-49/subtitle-B/chapter-III/subchapter-B/part-382>

If you do not qualify for an exemption, by law you must comply with **either** of the following:

- a. Implement your own DOT drug and alcohol testing program meeting the criteria outlined in **49 CFR Part 40**.
<https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-49/subtitle-A/part-40>
- or**
- b. Join a consortium. A consortium can assist, set up and operate portions of your drug and alcohol testing program. To find a consortium you can search the internet and type in the key words "Consortium DOT Drug & Alcohol Testing" or consult motor carrier industry associations.

How to File

8. Ways to provide requested annual DAMIS testing results:

- **File online at:**
<https://damis.dot.gov>
- **Obtain and file a Paper Form at:**
<https://www.transportation.gov/odapc/Part40/Appendix-J>
- **Contact FMCSA at:**
<https://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/registration/ask-fmcsa>

Failure to File

9. Do I have to provide this information:

- **YES**, FMCSA selected motor carriers are required under 49 CFR 382.403 (<https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-49/subtitle-B/chapter-III/subchapter-B/part-382/subpart-D/section-382.403>) to provide this data. Selected employers are required to prepare and maintain a summary of their drug and alcohol test data and provide it to FMCSA for the previous calendar year. Failure to report this information accurately and on time may result in civil penalties of up to **\$1,584** for each day the violation continues, **up to \$15,846**.

DAMIS Online Account Issues

10. Unable to Login to DAMIS

- Confirm your DAMIS account and DOT mode - “Administration” (**FMCSA must be shown under “Administration” column**)
- Confirm the email associated with your account.
- Delete cookies and browser history.
- Please make sure you are matching letter case in the password provided.
- If issues persist, call 1-800-832-5660. Request to speak with FMCSA’s Drug and Alcohol Helpdesk.

11. Adding emails to account registration

The same DAMIS registration email can now be used and linked between different DOT agencies for DAMIS reporting. When doing so, confirm that you have chosen the correct DOT agency and customer account for report submission. **More than one email may be associated to DAMIS account registrations.**

12. Drug Testing Results Online Survey Filing errors

I’m getting errors when entering drug test results online.

- Ensure the total of columns 4 through 8 is not less than the amount indicated in column 3.
- The total of columns 4 through 8 may exceed the amount in column 3, since a single test can be positive for more than one drug.