MEDICAL REVIEW BOARD ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEMBERSHIP BALANCE PLAN

1. COMMITTEE’S OFFICIAL DESIGNATION: The committee’s official designation is the Medical Review Board Advisory Committee (MRB).


3. MISSION/FUNCTION: The committee will provide advice and recommendations to the Secretary of Transportation through the Administrator of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) about medical advice and recommendations on matters relating to all aspects of development and implementation of science-based physical qualification standards and guidelines for operators of commercial motor vehicles (CMVs), medical examiner education, and medical research.

4. POINTS OF VIEW
   a. The committee consists of five members from among individuals from medical institutions and private practice who are not employees of FMCSA. The members shall reflect expertise in a variety of medical specialties relevant to the driver fitness requirements of FMCSA. MRB members shall serve as Special Government Employees under the authority of 5 U.S.C. § 3109.
   b. To ensure the recommendations of the Committee have considered the needs of diverse groups served by the Department, membership shall include, to the extent practicable, individuals to represent minorities, women, and persons with disabilities.
   c. The Secretary recently appointed five members to MRB. One female physician serves as MRB chair; four male physicians serve as members. Each MRB member is trained in different and complementary specialties, including addiction and controlled substances, family, occupational, internal, legal, and sleep medicine.
   d. All MRB members are listed on the National Registry of Certified Medical Examiners and conduct medical examinations of drivers of CMVs in interstate commerce.
   e. Membership balance is dynamic and may change depending on the work of the committee.

5. OTHER BALANCE FACTORS: In addition to the factors stated above to balance the committee membership, the Agency seeks balance regarding the following factors:
gender; geographic area; race and ethnicity; expertise; diversity of work sector; and other factors to achieve the most diverse and comprehensive points of view.

6. CANDIDATE IDENTIFICATION PROCESS

   a. Periodically, when several openings arise on the committee, the Agency solicits membership from among the representative sectors through a notice in the Federal Register and other advertisements, as necessary. Adequate time is allowed for candidates to apply or be nominated. Additionally, the Secretary may extend appointments and may appoint replacements for members who have resigned outside of a stated term, as necessary.

   b. Upon closure of the application period, candidate applications are compiled and reviewed and recommendations for membership made by the Designated Federal Officer, or designee, and to the FMCSA Administrator for consideration and recommendation to the Secretary for selection.

   c. Under the MRB Charter, committee members continue to serve until new members have been appointed to replace them. Members may be appointed by the Secretary for up to 2-year terms, and may be reappointed by the Secretary.

7. SUBCOMMITTEE BALANCE: If established, subcommittees will be balanced according to the criteria discussed above. A truncated selection process may be implemented.

8. DATE PREPARED/UPDATED: This Membership Balance Plan was prepared initially on October 21, 2019, and may be updated in conjunction with the charter every two years.