

Frequently Asked Questions

CCMTA:

- is not a federal government agency
- does not issue vehicle registrations, driver licences or international driver licences
- does not collect road safety data or conduct traffic studies
- does not provide winter road conditions
- does not deal with highways and infrastructure

CCMTA has compiled this list of frequently asked questions to assist people in finding the correct agencies and authorities that deal with specific motor transportation regulations. Please follow the links as necessary.

DRIVER LICENSING

Domestic and international

VEHICLES

Registration, importation, re-build, parts marking

COMMERCIAL CARRIERS

National Safety Code (NSC), operating authority, cargo securement, dangerous goods, bill of lading, reflective tape standards

MISCELLANEOUS

Highway Traffic Act, collision statistics

DRIVER LICENSING

Why do I have to transfer my driver's licence when I move from one province/territory to another?

Driver licensing is a provincial/territorial responsibility thus requiring drivers to be licenced in the province/territory of residence.

Who issues and maintains driver licence records for each province/territory?

Please see the table below:

Driver Licensing	Vehicle Registration	Commercial Motor Carrier Operating Authority (Safety Certificate)
British Columbia		
Insurance Corporation of British Columbia (ICBC) Driver Programs Driver Licensing Commercial Driver Licensing Tel: (800) 663-3051 or (604) 661-2800	Insurance Corporation of British Columbia (ICBC) Vehicle Registration Office	BC Ministry of Transportation Commercial Vehicle Safety and Enforcement Branch Tel: (250) 953-4017 Fax: (250) 952-0578 NSC Application Office Tel: (250) 952-0576 Fax: (250) 952-0578

		Vehicle Permit Line: (800) 559-9688
Alberta		
Ministry of Transport/Infrastructure Driver Licensing	Ministry of Transport/Infrastructure Vehicle Registrations	Ministry of Transport/Infrastructure Commercial Transportation
Saskatchewan		
SGI - Licensing and Registration Services Driver Licensing	SGI - Licensing & Registration Services Vehicle Registrations	Saskatchewan Highways and Transportation Transport Compliance and Trucking Information
Manitoba		
Manitoba Public Insurance Driver Licensing	Manitoba Public Insurance Registration	Manitoba Infrastructure & Transportation Motor Carrier Division
Ontario		
Ministry of Transportation Licensing Control Branch Driver Licensing Tel: 416-235-2999 or 1-800-387-3445	Ministry of Transportation Licensing Control Branch Vehicle Registration Tel: 416-235-2999 or 1-800-387-3445	Ministry of Transportation Carrier Safety & Enforcement Branch Commercial Vehicle Operator's Registration (CVOR) Tel: 416-246-7166 or 1-800-387-7736
Québec		
Société de l'assurance automobile du Québec (SAAQ) Permis de conduire Tel: 1-800-361-7620	Société de l'assurance automobile du Québec (SAAQ) Immatriculation Tel: 1-800-361-7620	Commission des Transports du Québec Véhicules lourds Société de l'assurance automobile du Québec (SAAQ) Véhicules lourds
New Brunswick		
Department of Public Safety Licensing & Records Branch Driver Licensing Tel: (506) 453-3992	Department of Public Safety Licensing & Records Branch Vehicle Registration Tel: (506) 453-3992	Department of Public Safety Licensing & Records Branch Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Tel: (506) 453-3992

		Permit Services: (506) 453-2982
Nova Scotia		
Service Nova Scotia & Municipal Relations Road Safety Programs Drivers Licence Information Tel: (902) 424-5200	Service Nova Scotia & Municipal Relations Road Safety Programs Vehicle Registration and Plates Tel: (902) 424-5200	Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal Vehicle Compliance Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal
Prince Edward Island		
Dept. of Transportation & Public Works Highway Safety Operations Driver's License Info	Dept. of Transportation & Public Works Highway Safety Operations Vehicle Registrations	Dept. of Transportation & Public Works Highway Safety Operations
Newfoundland and Labrador		
Department of Government Services Driver Licensing	Department of Government Services Vehicle Registration	Department of Government Services Inspection Requirements
Northwest Territories		
Department of Transportation The NWT Driver Licence	Registrar, Road Licencing and Safety Department of Transportation Tel: (867) 873-7406	Registrar, Road Licencing and Safety Department of Transportation Tel: (867) 873-7406
Yukon		
Department of Community Services Driver Licenses	Department of Community Services Vehicle Registration	Department of Highways and Public Works Transport Services Permit Services
Nunavut		
Dept. of Economic Development and Transportation Motor Vehicles Section	Dept. of Economic Development and Transportation Motor Vehicles Section	Dept. of Economic Development and Transportation Motor Vehicles Section

I am moving to Canada from another country. Can I exchange my present valid driver's licence for a Canadian one, or must I apply for a new driver's licence and complete the necessary written and practical testing?

U.S/ citizens moving to Canada:

All Canadian jurisdictions extend reciprocity to regular passenger vehicle driver licenses issued by all U.S. states without any additional retesting.

Canadian citizens moving to the US:

Please click [here](#) to see which U.S. states extend reciprocity to regular passenger vehicle drivers licenses issued by all Canadian province/territory without any additional written or practical testing.

Other citizens, moving to and from Canada (not from the US):

Some countries have reciprocal driver licence exchange agreements with individual Canadian provinces/territories. Please click [here](#) to see which countries participate.

When entering into an agreement with another country, Canadian jurisdictions use the following CCMTA guidelines, approved in May 2004:

Undertake due diligence to ensure licensing standards are comparable.

- Determine if foreign jurisdiction has adequate internal controls, fraudulent document recognition processes, proper record keeping and security elements in the driver licence card itself.
- Determine what other jurisdictions the reciprocating jurisdiction has agreements with so as to avoid security issues.
- Verification of identity - consistent with CCMTA Oversight Committee working groups.
- Proof of residency - consistent with definition of residency developed by AAMVA - addresses situations of multiple residences, limits person to possess one licence.
- Authenticate documents presented at point of contact. (e.g. *International ID Checking Guide*)
- Licence surrendered or marked indicating non-valid in provincial jurisdiction.
- Notification of exchanged licences from reciprocating jurisdictions. Issuing jurisdiction agrees to cancel licence.
- Verify licence validity and status directly from foreign issuing jurisdiction to provincial jurisdiction.
- Valid licence is defined as not expired, revoked, suspended, withdrawn or cancelled by the issuing jurisdiction at the time it is presented for exchange. Expired licences may be processed through an exception procedure.
- Driver licence classification valid for exchange: passenger vehicle licences only (i.e. not commercial driver licenses or driver licences for motorcycle).
- Reserve the right to administer written and road tests.
- Retain medical and vision testing.
- Consult with Foreign Affairs Canada prior to signing agreement, if appropriate.

Is an International Drivers Permit (IDP) the same as a driver's licence?

An international driver's permit is valid only when the driver has a valid licence issued by a jurisdiction permitting the operation of a passenger vehicle.

A valid driver's licence issued by a jurisdiction must be carried in conjunction with the IDP.

Most countries consider an IDP to be a translator of the driver's licence of the issuing country/state/province/territory. Simply stated, an IDP is a translation of a licence issued by the country of residence to help people travelling abroad to avoid language barriers between foreign drivers and law enforcement.

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VEHICLES

Who issues and maintains vehicle registration records for each province/territory?

Please see [the table above](#).

What are the rules, requirements and regulations for importing a car into Canada?

If importing a vehicle from the U.S.A., please contact the [Registrar of Imported Vehicles](#) toll-free at 1-888-848-8240.

If importing a vehicle from some place other than the USA, please contact [Transport Canada](#) toll-free at 1-800-333-0371.

What are the laws and regulations regarding the restoration and rebuilding of motor vehicles?

Each Canadian province/territory has regulations dealing with standards for rebuilding motor vehicles. You must contact the jurisdiction where the motor vehicle is to be registered for further information.

What are the vehicle requirements for aftermarket parts?

Each Canadian province/territory has regulations dealing with vehicle requirements for aftermarket parts. You must contact each jurisdiction for further information.

Where can I get information on vehicle manufacturing standards in Canada?

Please go to the [Transport Canada](#) for further information.

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COMMERCIAL CARRIERS

What is the National Safety Code for Motor Carriers and where can I obtain a copy?

The National Safety Code for Motor Carriers (also referred to as "NSC") is a comprehensive code of minimum performance standards for the safe operation of commercial vehicles. The code applies to all persons responsible for the operation of commercial vehicles on the road, including trucks, buses, tractors and trailers.

The National Safety Code (NSC) for Motor Carriers manual - 2nd Edition is now available for [purchase](#) and some NSC Standards may be purchased separately.

How do I get my motor carrier operating authority (safety certificate) in Canada?

Authority must be sought from each jurisdiction in which you intend to travel. Should you not wish to conduct regular business in a province/territory on an ongoing basis, application can be made for a trip permit.

Please see [the table above](#).

I've heard about a new North American Cargo Securement Standard. Can you tell me anything about it?

The North American Cargo Securement Standard is a performance-based standard. In the mid-1990s a joint CCMTA/U.S. research project, including industry stakeholders, was undertaken to establish a sound technical foundation for a review of the regulations governing load security.

Research reports emanating from this project can be obtained at the [CCMTA Publications](#) webpage.

Since 1994 there has been active and close collaboration between representatives of governments and industry in both Canada and the United States in pursuit of developing and implementing uniform regulatory requirements for securement of cargo on highway transport vehicles.

Key milestones in this collaboration and related documents such as the Final NSC Standard on Cargo Securement and the training program can also be obtained on the **Cargo Securement** webpage.

Where can I obtain dangerous goods legislation for each of the provinces/territories?

Canadian provinces/territories model their legislation on the federal regulations /legislation for the Transportation of Dangerous Goods. Please contact Transport Canada for the **Transportation of Dangerous Goods Act and Regulations**.

For further provincial/territorial information please see the agencies below:

- British Columbia
Ministry of Public Safety & Solicitor General, Commercial Vehicle Safety & Enforcement Division
Tel: (250) 953-4016, Fax: (250) 952-0578, **TDG Act**
- Alberta
Alberta Infrastructure & Transportation, Coordination and Information Centre: 1-800-272-9600
Dangerous Goods Handling
- Saskatchewan
Department of Justice Queen's Printers, **Dangerous Goods Transportation Regulation**
- Manitoba
Dangerous Goods Handling and Transportation Act
- Ontario
Ontario Ministry of Transportation, Provincial Dangerous Goods Coordinator
Tel: (905) 704-2342
- Québec
Ministère des Transports du Québec, **Matières dangereuses**
- New Brunswick
New Brunswick Department of Public Safety
Tel: (506) 453-3992
Legislation & TDG Act at: **www.gnb.ca**
- Nova Scotia
Dept. of Transportation and Public Works, Vehicle Compliance, Tel: (902) 424-3602
Transportation of Dangerous Goods
- Prince Edward Island
Department of Transportation and Public Works, Highway Safety Operations
Tel: (902) 368-5222
- Newfoundland
Tel: (709) 729-3454
- Northwest Territories
Department of Transportation, Vehicle Inspections Programs
Tel: (867) 920-8015
- Yukon
Department of Highways and Public Works, Transportation Services
Tel: (867) 667-5920
- Nunavut
Department of Economic Development and Transportation, Services & Inspections
Tel: (867) 975-5381

Does Canada have a uniform bill of lading?

All jurisdictions ensure bill of lading provisions are safeguarded in jurisdictional legislation.

The existing bills of lading provisions are similar among the provinces/territories, with variations relating to specific commodities. The legislation in each jurisdiction is the best source for bill of lading requirements.

What are the new Canadian regulations for reflective tape on trailers?

Transport Canada is responsible for setting vehicle manufacturing standards in Canada. The provinces/territories have the responsibility of implementing these standards, including any requirements for retrofit.

Implementation date for retrofitting trailers:

- January 1, 2000 for all trailers built on or/after December 1, 1993
- January 1, 2002 for all trailers built prior to December 1, 1993

Rules and technical specifications on reflective tape can be found at the **Transport Canada**. A number of provincial governments have introduced requirements for reflective tape in their respective Highway Traffic Acts or vehicle equipment regulations.

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MISCELLANEOUS

I wish to obtain a copy of the Highway Traffic Act for my province/territory, where do I find this?

Please contact your provincial/territorial **government website**.

Where can I find Canadian motor vehicle collision statistics?

Collected in collaboration with CCMTA , Transport Canada annually produces a pamphlet entitled "**Canadian Motor Vehicle Traffic Collision Statistics**". It contains statistical information on the "Number of Licensed Drivers by Gender and Age Group", "Fatalities and Injuries by Age Group", "Fatalities by Road User Class" etc.

When did the Canadian provinces and territories introduce seat belt and child restraint legislation?

Please click **here** for legislation dates.

Are there any recommended guidelines in Canada for the operation of power-assisted bicycles?

Please click **here** for the recommended guidelines for Canada. For specific provincial and territorial regulations, please contact the appropriate jurisdiction.

Where can you legally operate a radar detector in Canada?

Please click **here** for the radar detector status in Canada.

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The information contained in this FAQ section is by no means the final word on the issues described. It is our intent to assist those who are seeking information regarding the subject matter. Moreover, CCMTA is not responsible should any part or all of the information provided change, nor is it responsible for the content of external sites.

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