
AC 90–106A provides information about the operating rules pertaining to EFVS operations and explains how to obtain authorization to conduct EFVS operations. AC 20–167A provides guidance on airworthiness approvals of EFVS, Enhanced Vision System (EVS), Synthetic Vision System (SVS), and Combined Vision System (CVS) equipment installation.

AC 90–106A is for persons operating aircraft under Title 14 of the Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR) part 91, 121, 125, 135, or 139 who seek approval to use an EFVS in lieu of natural vision to descend below decision altitude/decision height (DA/DH) or minimum descent altitude (MDA) to 100 feet height above touchdown zone elevation (HAT) from a straight-in Instrument Approach Procedure (IAP), or descend below DA/DH to touchdown and rollout from a straight-in precision IAP or a straight-in IAP with approved (published) vertical guidance.

AC 90–106A applies to all EFVS operations that are conducted to 100 feet HAT and all EFVS operations that would be conducted to touchdown and rollout under proposed §§ 91.176, 121.651, 125.381, 129, and 135.225. AC 90–106A also applies to the proposed EFVS provisions of §§ 121.613, 121.615, 125.361, 125.363, and 135.219 for dispatch, flight release, and takeoff under IFR when the reported or forecast weather is below authorized visibility minimums for the runway of intended landing. This AC also contains information about the proposed requirements for pilot training under § 61.31 and the proposed recent flight experience and proficiency requirements under § 61.57.

AC 90–106A provides information on the regulatory background of EFVS operations and EFVS operations which can be currently approved, the concept of operation associated with each level of EFVS operation, and how to obtain operational approval to conduct EFVS operations. AC 90–106A also provides information on the regulatory requirements for conducting EFVS operations, including operating, equipment, training, recent flight experience, proficiency, dispatch and flight release, and maintenance requirements.

Public comments on draft AC 90–106A should be submitted on the comment form titled Comment Form for Advisory Circular (AC) 90–106A, Enhanced Flight Vision Systems. An electronic copy of this form can be downloaded from the docket.

AC 20–167A is for airplane and rotorcraft manufacturers, modifiers, and type certification engineers seeking certification or installation guidance for their visual display system. Sections 23.773, 25.773 27.773 and 29.773 address vision systems using a transparent display surface located in the pilot’s outside view, such as a head-up-display, head-mounted display, or other equivalent display. Such “vision systems” include any EVS, EFVS, SVS, or CVS.

AC 20–167A applies to all applicants for a new type certificate (TC), an amended type certificate (ATC), or a supplemental type certificate (STC) who install vision systems and equipment. The method of compliance described in AC 20–167A can be used to obtain a TC, STC, or ATC for an airplane or rotorcraft equipped with EVS, EFVS, SVS, or CVS equipment.

AC 20–167A describes system performance, provides methods, procedures, and practices acceptable to the FAA for complying with regulations, and addresses specific installation guidance for vision systems on an airplane or rotorcraft. This AC also provides EFVS safety standards and sample flight test considerations for EFVS operations conducted to 100 feet HAT and for EFVS operations conducted to touchdown and rollout.

Public comments on the available drafts should be submitted on the forms provided. Electronic copies of these forms can be downloaded from the docket: FAA–2013–0485.

Both ACs provide methods, procedures, and practices acceptable to the FAA for complying with regulations. They are a means, but not the only means, of obtaining approval to conduct EFVS operations and to install and obtain airworthiness approval for vision systems. These ACs do not alter regulatory requirements.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration
[Docket No. FMCSA–2013–0108]
Qualification of Drivers; Exemption Applications; Epilepsy and Seizure Disorders

AGENCY: Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of applications for exemption, request for comments.

SUMMARY: FMCSA announces receipt of applications from 5 individuals for an exemption from the prohibition against persons with a clinical diagnosis of epilepsy or any other condition which is likely to cause a loss of consciousness or any loss of ability to operate a commercial motor vehicle (CMV) from operating CMVs in interstate commerce. The regulation and the associated advisory criteria published in the Code of Federal Regulations as the “Instructions for Performing and Recording Physical Examinations” have resulted in numerous drivers being prohibited from operating CMVs in interstate commerce based on the fact that they have had one or more seizures and are taking anti-seizure medication, rather than an individual analysis of their circumstances by a qualified medical examiner. If granted, the exemptions would enable these individuals who have had one or more seizures and are taking anti-seizure medication to operate CMVs for 2 years in interstate commerce.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before September 12, 2013.

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments bearing the Federal Docket Management System (FDMS) Docket ID FMCSA–2013–0108 using any of the following methods:

• Federal eRulemaking Portal: Go to http://www.regulations.gov. Follow the on-line instructions for submitting comments.

• Mail: Docket Management Facility; U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., West Building Ground Floor, Room W12–140, Washington, DC 20590–0001.

• Hand Delivery: West Building Ground Floor, Room W12–140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington,
who operate CMVs as defined in 49 CFR 390.5, in interstate commerce. Section 391.41(b)(8) states that a person is physically qualified to drive a commercial motor vehicle if that person has no established medical history or clinical diagnosis of epilepsy or any other condition which is likely to cause the loss of consciousness or any loss of ability to control a CMV.

FMCSA provides medical advisory criteria for use by medical examiners in determining whether drivers with certain medical conditions should be certified to operate CMVs in intrastate commerce. The advisory criteria indicate that if an individual has had a sudden episode of a non-epileptic seizure or loss of consciousness of unknown cause which did not require anti-seizure medication, the decision whether that person’s condition is likely to cause the loss of consciousness or loss of ability to control a CMV should be made on an individual basis by the medical examiner in consultation with the treating physician. Before certification is considered, it is suggested that a 6-month waiting period elapse from the time of the episode. Following the waiting period, it is suggested that the individual have a complete neurological examination. If the results of the examination are negative and anti-seizure medication is not required, then the driver may be qualified.

In those individual cases where a driver had a seizure or an episode of loss of consciousness that resulted from a known medical condition (e.g., drug reaction, high temperature, acute infectious disease, dehydration, or acute metabolic disturbance), certification should be deferred until the driver has fully recovered from that condition, has no existing residual complications, and is not taking anti-seizure medication. Drivers who have a history of epilepsy/seizures, off anti-seizure medication and seizure-free for 10 years, may be qualified to operate a CMV in interstate commerce. Interstate drivers with a history of a single unprovoked seizure may be qualified to drive a CMV in interstate commerce if seizure-free and off anti-seizure medication for a 5-year period or more.

Submiting Comments
You may submit your comments and material online or by fax, mail, or hand delivery, but please use only one of these means. FMCSA recommends that you include your name and a mailing address, an email address, or a phone number in the body of your document so that FMCSA can contact you if there are questions regarding your submission.

To submit your comment online, go to http://www.regulations.gov and in the search box insert the docket number “FMCSA–2013–0108” and click the search button. When the new screen appears, click on the blue “Comment Now!” button on the right hand side of the page. On the new page, enter information required including the specific section of this document to which each comment applies, and provide a reason for each suggestion or recommendation. If you submit your comments by mail or hand delivery, submit them in an unbound format, no larger than 8½ by 11 inches, suitable for copying and electronic filing. If you submit comments by mail and would like to know that they reached the facility, please enclose a stamped, self-addressed postcard or envelope.

We will consider all comments and material received during the comment period and may change this proposed rule based on your comments. FMCSA may issue a final rule at any time after the close of the comment period.

Viewing Comments and Documents
To view comments, as well as any documents mentioned in this preamble, go to http://www.regulations.gov and in the search box insert the docket number “FMCSA–2013–0108” and click “Search.” Next, click “Open Docket Folder” and you will find all documents and comments related to the proposed rulemaking.

Summary of Applications

Erik Fleiner
Mr. Fleiner is a 25 year-old class A commercial driver’s license holder in Nevada. He has a history of seizures and has remained seizure free for at least 10 years. He takes anti-seizure medication with the dosage and frequency remaining the same for over 10 years. If granted the exemption, he would like to continue to drive a CMV. His physician states he is supportive of Mr. Fleiner receiving an exemption.

Gary Freeman
Mr. Freeman is a 48 year-old class A commercial driver’s license holder in Wisconsin. He has a history of seizures and has remained seizure free for at least 10 years. He takes anti-seizure medication with the dosage and frequency remaining the same for over 7 years. If granted the exemption, he would like to continue to drive large trucks with trailers. He owns and operates a transport business and would...
like to continue to drive for his business. His physician states he is supportive of Mr. Freeman receiving an exemption.

David Kestner

Mr. Kestner is a 28 year-old driver in Virginia. He has a history of epilepsy and has remained seizure free for 9 years. He takes anti-seizure medication with the dosage and frequency remaining the same for 5 years. If granted the exemption, he would like to drive a tractor trailer. His physician states he is supportive of Mr. Kestner receiving an exemption.

Paul G. Kane

Mr. Kane is a 56 year-old driver in Massachusetts. He has a history of seizures and has remained seizure free since December 2009. He takes anti-seizure medication with the dosage and frequency remaining the same for over 2 years. If granted the exemption, he would like to drive a truck over 10,001 lbs. His physician states he is supportive of Mr. Kane receiving an exemption.

Chad Smith

Mr. Smith is a 36 year-old driver in Massachusetts. He has a history of seizures and has remained seizure free for at least 15 years. He takes anti-seizure medication with the dosage and frequency remaining the same for 6 years. If granted the exemption, he would like to continue to transport automobiles from auctions to dealers. His physician states that he is supportive of Mr. Smith receiving an exemption.

Request for Comments

In accordance with 49 U.S.C. 31315 and 31136(e), FMCSA requests public comment from all interested persons on the exemption applications described in this notice. We will consider all comments received before the close of business on the closing date indicated earlier in the notice.

Issued on: August 6, 2013.

Larry W. Minor,
Associate Administrator for Policy.
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