



Information for Medical Examiners on Insulin Dependent Michigan School Bus Drivers

Background:

The Michigan Pupil Transportation Act, 1990 PA 187, requires all school bus drivers to obtain a US Department of Transportation (USDOT) Medical Examiner's Certificate in compliance with 49 CFR 391.41-391.45. However, under what is commonly referred to as the "grandfather provision" in MCL 257.1853(b)(ii), a person employed as a school bus driver on June 22, 2010 is eligible for a Michigan Department of Education (MDE) SM-2934 School Bus Driver Certificate of Medical Fitness (Blue Card), if diabetes was noted at the time of examination.

Employer's Responsibilities:

It is the employer's responsibility to determine if the driver is eligible for the Blue Card. The employer should provide the driver with a "Supplementary Information Concerning Prospective/Current School Bus Driver's Management of Diabetes" form (Supplementary Form) and a Blue Card for the medical examiner's certification.

Driver's Responsibilities:

The driver shall take the Supplementary Form to be completed by his/her physician and provide the completed form with the Blue Card to the medical examiner.

Medical Examiner's Responsibilities:

It is the medical examiner's responsibility to determine if the applicant meets all medical standards and guidelines, other than insulin use, in accordance with 49 CFR 391.41(B)(1)-(13). If the applicant passes the certification except for using insulin, the medical examiner shall review the Supplementary Form, and if satisfied the driver's diabetic condition is properly controlled, complete the examination report and in the comments section indicate this is a school bus driver physical only. At that point the medical examiner may complete the Blue Card provided to the examiner. The medical examiner shall not complete a USDOT Medical Examiners Certificate, and not report this physical to Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) in his or her monthly report because it is not a FMCSA physical.

Additional Information:

This is not a physical examination required by the USDOT, but a MDE school bus driver physical. MCL 257.1853(1)(b) requires a USDOT Medical Examination Report for Commercial Driver Fitness Determination be completed pursuant to 49 CFR 391.43(f), and with the exception of diabetes, the standards are the same. The school bus driver who requests a physical under this provision does not qualify for a USDOT Medical Examiners Certificate issued pursuant to 49 CFR 391.45(h).

More information can be found at the MDE Pupil Transportation web site located at www.michigan.gov/schoolbus, or by contacting the Michigan State Police Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Division's Medical Waiver Unit at (517)-284-3243.

For additional information on Michigan medical waivers go to www.michigan.gov/cvedmedicalwaiver.