

NOTE FROM ILLINOIS SECRETARY OF STATE – CDL MEDICAL MERGE PROCESS

It has now been a full week of the new CDL/Medical Merge Program. I think all of the kinks are getting worked out. I have three suggestions to make, to possible help your drivers.

- 1) If a driver is working for a company in an interstate capacity, and files a two (2) year medical with us, then quits employment and starts employment with another interstate carrier, or is working for more than one carrier; and the new carrier makes them get another two (2) year medical, even though the first is still valid, keep in mind we will not know that.

Example: company A has employee file their medical. It is effective 01/30/12-01/30/14. Driver brings us the medical at our facility, and we load as such. Company B, has driver get new two (2) year medical and it is 05/01/12-05/01/14, and driver does not bring to us. Our official records to CDLIS and the Feds will show 01/30/12-01/30/14. We will not show the new additional 5 months that he is holding for company B, unless he/she lets us know that. Could become a problem for the driver if he ever let number 1 expire, and not renew.

- 2) As you know, we are required to capture the following information from the short DOT Medical Card: We need the Doctors name, license number, phone number, type of specialty, State Doctor is licensed in, and the beginning and ending date of the Medical Certification. These are mandatory hard coded fields that must be filled in. We are having drivers bringing in cards that are unreadable or missing information. If the driver cannot read it, we will not be able to as well. At that point, we have no choice but to turn the driver away. Hopefully the driver can get cards that are typed. If not, they need to make sure they can read it prior to bringing it to us. Saves everyone time and confusion.
- 3) We are having drivers bring in grandfathered Diabetes waivers. As you know, these are only good for one (1) year, but they are attaching them to a two (2) year DOT Medical. This is not possible. Again, we are having to turn them away from our facilities.

If we could get some consistency and continuity on these three (3) things, I think things would flow even better. Thanks for all of your help and assistance on making Illinois CDL/Medical Merge as smooth as it can be.

Terry

Terry Montalbano
CDL Administrator
Illinois
(217) 785-1350