

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION****Federal Highway Administration**

[Docket No. FHWA-2020-0028]

**Agency Information Collection  
Activities: Request for Comments for a  
New Information Collection****AGENCY:** Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, this notice announces that FHWA will submit the collection of information described below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comment. The **Federal Register** Notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on the following collection of information was published on November 25, 2020. The PRA submission describes the nature of the information collection and its expected cost and burden.

**DATES:** Please submit comments by March 3, 2021.**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments identified by DOT Docket ID 2020-0028 by any of the following methods:

*Website:* For access to the docket to read background documents or comments received; go to the Federal eRulemaking Portal: Go to <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.

*Fax:* 1-202-493-2251.

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

*Hand Delivery or Courier:* U.S. Department of Transportation, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. ET, Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mary Huie, 202-493-3460, [Mary.Huie@dot.gov](mailto:Mary.Huie@dot.gov), Turner-Fairbank Highway Research Center, Office of Corporate Research, Technology, and Innovation Management, Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation, 6300 Georgetown Pike, McLean, VA 22101. Office hours are from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Title:* Federal Highway Administration Research, Development and Technology Portfolio website.

*Background:* Title 23, United States Code, Section 502(a)(5) requires that

Federal surface transportation research and development activities address the needs of stakeholders, including “States, metropolitan planning organizations, local governments, the private sector, researchers, research sponsors, and other affected parties, including public interest groups.” As part of its effort to ensure that Federal research, development and technology (RD&T) activities are addressing the most critical national challenges, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) is developing the RD&T Agenda website. This website will communicate FHWA’s RD&T goals, objectives and strategies to its stakeholders and highlight notable initiatives or projects that illustrate FHWA’s RD&T approach. The website will include an electronic mechanism for stakeholders to provide feedback on the overall RD&T Agenda, FHWA’s approach to addressing national transportation challenges, and potential opportunities for FHWA to collaborate with stakeholders to address them.

*Respondents:* Approximately 1,000 annual respondents.

*Frequency:* Annually.

*Estimated Average Burden per Response:* Approximately 10 minutes per respondent per year.

*Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:* Approximately 167 hours per year.

*Public Comments Invited:* You are asked to comment on any aspect of this information collection, including: (1) Whether the proposed collection is necessary for the FHWA’s performance; (2) the accuracy of the estimated burden; (3) ways for the FHWA to enhance the quality, usefulness, and clarity of the collected information; and (4) ways that the burden could be minimized, including the use of computer technology, without reducing the quality of the collected information. The agency will summarize and/or include your comments in the request for OMB’s clearance of this information collection.

**Authority:** The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995; 44 U.S.C. Chapter 35, as amended; and 49 CFR 1.48.

Issued On: January 26, 2021.

**Michael Howell,**

*Information Collection Coordinator.*

[FR Doc. 2021-01996 Filed 1-29-21; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE P**

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION****Federal Highway Administration**

[Docket No. FHWA-2020-0029]

**Agency Information Collection  
Activities: Request for Comments for a  
New Information Collection****AGENCY:** Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), DOT.**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, this notice announces that FHWA will submit the collection of information described below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comment. The **Federal Register** Notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on the following collection of information was published on November 25, 2020. The PRA submission describes the nature of the information collection and its expected cost and burden.

**DATES:** Please submit comments by March 3, 2021.**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments identified by DOT Docket ID 2020-0029 by any of the following methods:

*Website:* For access to the docket to read background documents or comments received go to the Federal eRulemaking Portal: Go to <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.

*Fax:* 1-202-493-2251.

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

*Hand Delivery or Courier:* U.S. Department of Transportation, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. ET, Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Carolyn Winborne-James, 202-493-0353, Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, Office of Real Estate Services, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590. Office hours are from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Title:* FHWA Excellence in Right-of-Way Awards.

*Background:* In 1995, the Federal Highway Administration established the biennial Excellence in Right-of-Way Awards Program to recognize partners,

projects, and processes that use FHWA funding sources to go beyond regulatory compliance and achieve Right-of-Way excellence. Excellence in Right-of-Way awardees have contributed to outstanding innovations that enhance the right-of-way professional's ability to meet the challenges associated with acquiring real property for Federal-aid projects.

Similarly, FHWA established the Excellence in Right-of-Way Awards Program to honor the use of innovative practices and outstanding achievements associated with highway improvement projects as it relates to the Right-of-Way program. The goal of the program is to showcase exemplary and innovative projects, programs, initiatives, and practices that successfully integrate the consideration of the Right-of-Way program along with the association of the acquisition of land required to construct transportation facilities.

**Award:** Anyone can nominate a project, process, person or group that has used Federal Highway Administration funding sources to make an outstanding contribution to transportation and the Right-of-Way field. The nominator is responsible for submitting an application form that summarizes the outstanding accomplishments of the entry. FHWA will use the collected information to evaluate, showcase, and enhance the public's knowledge on addressing right-of-way challenges on transportation projects. Nominations will be reviewed by an independent panel of judges from varying backgrounds. It is anticipated that awards will be given every two years. The winners will be presented awards at the completion of the process.

**Respondents:** Anyone who has used Federal Highway funding sources in the fifty states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.

**Frequency:** The information will be collected biennially.

**Estimated Average Burden per Response:** 6 hours per respondent per application.

**Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours:** It is expected that the respondents will complete approximately 50 applications for an estimated total of 600 annual burden hours.

**Public Comments Invited:** You are asked to comment on any aspect of this information collection, including: (1) Whether the proposed collection is necessary for the FHWA's performance; (2) the accuracy of the estimated burdens; (3) ways for the FHWA to enhance the quality, usefulness, and clarity of the collected information; and (4) ways that the burden could be

minimized, including the use of electronic technology, without reducing the quality of the collected information. The agency will summarize and/or include your comments in the request for OMB's clearance of this information collection.

**Authority:** The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995; 44 U.S.C. Chapter 35, as amended; and 49 CFR 1.48.

Issued On: January 26, 2021.

**Michael Howell,**

*Information Collection Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2021-01998 Filed 1-29-21; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

[Docket No. FMCSA-2014-0102; FMCSA-2014-0104; FMCSA-2016-0002; FMCSA-2017-0057; FMCSA-2017-0061; FMCSA-2018-0135]

### Qualification of Drivers; Exemption Applications; Hearing

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

**ACTION:** Notice of final disposition.

**SUMMARY:** FMCSA announces its decision to renew exemptions for nine individuals from the hearing requirement in the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations (FMCSRs) for interstate commercial motor vehicle (CMV) drivers. The exemptions enable these hard of hearing and deaf individuals to continue to operate CMVs in interstate commerce.

**DATES:** The exemptions were applicable on November 30, 2020. The exemptions expire on November 30, 2022.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Christine A. Hydock, Chief, Medical Programs Division, (202) 366-4001, [fmcsamedical@dot.gov](mailto:fmcsamedical@dot.gov), FMCSA, Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Room W64-224, Washington, DC 20590-0001. Office hours are from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., ET, Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. If you have questions regarding viewing or submitting material to the docket, contact Dockets Operations, (202) 366-9826.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

#### I. Public Participation

##### A. Viewing Documents and Comments

To view comments, as well as any documents mentioned in this notice as being available in the docket, go to <http://www.regulations.gov>. Insert the docket number, FMCSA-2014-0102,

FMCSA-2014-0104, FMCSA-2016-0002, FMCSA-2017-0057, FMCSA-2017-0061, or FMCSA-2018-0135, in the keyword box, and click "Search." Next, click the "Open Docket Folder" button and choose the document to review. If you do not have access to the internet, you may view the docket online by visiting Dockets Operations in Room W12-140 on the ground floor of the DOT West Building, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590-0001, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. ET, Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. To be sure someone is there to help you, please call (202) 366-9317 or (202) 366-9826 before visiting Dockets Operations.

##### B. Privacy Act

In accordance with 5 U.S.C. 553(c), DOT solicits comments from the public to better inform its rulemaking process. DOT posts these comments, without edit, including any personal information the commenter provides, to [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov), as described in the system of records notice (DOT/ALL-14 FDMS), which can be reviewed at [www.transportation.gov/privacy](http://www.transportation.gov/privacy).

#### II. Background

On November 18, 2020, FMCSA published a notice announcing its decision to renew exemptions for nine individuals from the hearing standard in 49 CFR 391.41(b)(11) to operate a CMV in interstate commerce and requested comments from the public (85 FR 73591). The public comment period ended on December 18, 2020, and no comments were received.

FMCSA has evaluated the eligibility of these applicants and determined that renewing these exemptions would achieve a level of safety equivalent to, or greater than, the level that would be achieved by complying with § 391.41(b)(11).

The physical qualification standard for drivers regarding hearing found in § 391.41(b)(11) states that a person is physically qualified to drive a CMV if that person first perceives a forced whispered voice in the better ear at not less than 5 feet with or without the use of a hearing aid or, if tested by use of an audiometric device, does not have an average hearing loss in the better ear greater than 40 decibels at 500 Hz, 1,000 Hz, and 2,000 Hz with or without a hearing aid when the audiometric device is calibrated to American National Standard (formerly ASA Standard) Z24.5-1951.

This standard was adopted in 1970 and was revised in 1971 to allow drivers to be qualified under this standard while wearing a hearing aid, 35 FR