



Phased Rollout of URS Begins December 12, 2015



On December 12, 2015, the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) begins a phased rollout of the new Unified Registration System (URS). URS replaces the registration functions of multiple FMCSA legacy systems, including the Licensing and Insurance (L&I) system and the Motor Carrier Management Information System (MCMIS). The URS online application replaces various forms that carriers, freight forwarders, and brokers currently use to register and update their information with a single, online registration process.

Benefits of URS

The Unified Registration System is one more way FMCSA is trying to raise the safety bar. URS:

- Simplifies processes and combines forms through the use of a single online, interactive application.
- Reduces paperwork and errors.
- Reduces application review and approval times, increasing efficiency.

Most importantly, URS will help get unsafe carriers off the roads. URS electronically screens all applications to identify high-risk carriers, including potential reincarnated carriers.

A Phased Approach to URS

The first phase impacts only first-time applicants for any FMCSA issued registration. **Beginning December 12, 2015, first-time applicants must use the online registration process through URS.** This will be the only means for first-time applicants to get a USDOT Number and Operating Authority registration. However, any updates required by new applicants before September 30, 2016, will be made using existing FMCSA forms and processes, and not the URS.

Beginning September 30, 2016, all first-time applicants or existing registrants seeking to add a registration or update registration(s) must use the URS. After September 30, FMCSA will not accept applications by mail or fax. The

only exception is Mexican-domiciled long-haul carriers, who were exempted from the URS rule and must mail applications for long-haul operating authority.

Also, the **USDOT Number will become the sole identifier**, and MC, FF, MX, or any other numbers previously assigned by FMCSA will no longer be issued. For existing entities with a MC, FF or MX number, the Agency will no longer accept those numbers as a reference for filings or other matters. Registered entities without a USDOT number today will be issued a USDOT number before September 30, 2016, (e.g., small motor carriers, freight forwarders, and brokers.)

FMCSA will also begin issuing a separate and distinct safety registration, consistent with the URS Final Rule and new statutory requirements. Existing registered carriers with an active USDOT number (who are not under an operations out-of-service order or who have not had their operating authority registration revoked), will hold safety registration when the URS is fully implemented.

All new applications for registration received on or after September 30, 2016, will incur a \$300 registration fee for each distinct registration type - including safety registration and each requested operating authority registration. A new application for registration and fees will be required if an applicant's registration has been revoked (but the applicant will retain the same USDOT number).

New Financial Responsibility Requirements for Private HM and Exempt For-Hire Carriers and Process Agent Requirements for All Registered Entities.

Beginning September 30, 2016, all new and existing private motor carriers of hazardous materials and exempt for-hire carriers will be required to provide financial responsibility filings. Financial responsibility requirements can be found at 49 CFR part 387, or you may access general information about the requirements at <https://fmcsa.dot.gov/registration/insurance-requirements>.

All new applicants will be required to designate a process agent. For more information about process agents and a state listing of blanket process agents, visit <https://fmcsa.dot.gov/registration/process-agents>.

For new applicants, the filings must be made before registration will be granted. The URS final rule extension published on October 21, 2015, includes a grace period for existing entities to make filings.

All existing registered entities must complete the required filings on or before December 31, 2016. Failure to submit filings in a timely fashion may result in suspension or revocation of registration. Entities are encouraged to make filings prior to the December 31, 2016, compliance date.

Accessing URS

Once fully implemented, on September 30, 2016, all users will access URS through FMCSA's online portal at <https://portal.fmcsa.dot.gov/AccountRequest/AccountRequestForm1.jsp>. All current motor carriers, brokers, freight forwarders, intermodal equipment providers, and cargo tank manufacturing and repair facilities **MUST have a portal account prior to the URS launch**. The portal provides instructions and support for obtaining an account. Existing entities without a USDOT number will be issued one by June 30, 2016, allowing them to set up a portal account before September 30, 2016.

Learn More About URS

Visit <http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/urs> for updated information, a copy of the final rule, a link to Frequently Asked Questions, and information about online training and webinars. Have a question? Visit www.fmcsa.dot.gov/ask to submit your questions or see other contact information.

Phased URS Rollout At A Glance

Because of the number of systems and organizations impacted, a phased rollout will best allow for smooth transitions from current systems. The chart below details the phases and who will be impacted.

What	When	Who
Use of the online registration application for first-time applicants	December 12, 2015	First-time applicants
Use of the online registration application for all reasons to file	September 30, 2016	New & existing entities
USDOT Number as sole identifier (discontinue issuing all other docket numbers - except distinct CT numbers for cargo tank facility registration)	September 30, 2016	New & existing entities
New Fee Schedule	September 30, 2016	New registrants and existing registered users requesting a new type of registration
Evidence of Financial Responsibility (Insurance Filings and Surety Bonds/Trust)	September 30, 2016	New Private HM & Exempt For-Hire Carriers Existing Private HM & Exempt For-Hire Carriers must provide, but no enforcement until December 31, 2016
Process Agent Designation (BOC-3)	September 30, 2016	New Private & Exempt For-Hire Carriers All Existing motor carriers, brokers and freight forwarders must provide, but no enforcement until December 31, 2016
Evidence of Financial Responsibility (Insurance Filings and Surety Bonds/Trust)	December 31, 2016	Existing Private HM & Exempt For-Hire Carriers must have on file
Process Agent Designation (BOC-3)	December 31, 2016	Existing Motor Carriers, Freight Forwarders and Brokers must have on file