

# FMCSA MEC Waiver Good News for TeamCME Members!

Yesterday's FMCSA waiver that allows certain drivers to continue driving with an expired medical certificate could be viewed as a significant concern. In actuality, it is a *great opportunity* for TeamCME members. TeamCME's timing in promoting your clinic as a safer environment for drivers could not have been better!

**As you read further, keep in mind that many clinics are either closed or have stopped performing driver exams and drug testing due to lack of staff resources or availability.**

## Fewer Exams to be Performed through June 30<sup>th</sup>? Not so Fast!

**DON'T STOP PERFORMING DRIVER PHYSICALS AND DRUG TESTING!** There are still going to be plenty of physical exams and drug testing that will need to be performed. This also applies to those whose medical certificate expires on June 30<sup>th</sup> !!

Don't close your office until you have reviewed information in Monday's and Tuesday's Newsletters regarding staying open to provide essential services.

**Perform a medical exam on EVERY driver that contacts you .** Why? All those drivers with an expired medical certificate will need to acquire a new one on or before June 30<sup>th</sup> to continue driving. There could be up to 3 times more drivers than usual looking for a new medical certificate at the same time. **Performing the exam now allows them to avoid what is certainly going to be a significant scheduling problem on June 30<sup>th</sup> and will free up your schedule to perform more exams later.**

**Motor Carriers are hiring drivers like never before. They will want these new employees to have a fresh medical exam to insure they are safe. Previously retired drivers with expired medical certificates are getting back into the cab. Student drivers still need a current medical certificate to start driving school. Additionally, there will be motor carriers that recognize the future medical exam scheduling problem that is going to happen on June 30<sup>th</sup> and will wish to avoid it.**



# Benefit Like Never Expected!

Here are the Steps:

- 1. Perform the most exams you can now.** Remind drivers and motor carriers of the "appointment crunch" that is going to happen on June 30<sup>th</sup>. It's better to get their appointment now rather than wait!
- 2. Organize your work schedule.** Consider being open fewer hours if needed. We think drivers and motor carriers will be more than willing to meet your work schedule and fill in open appointments.
- 3. Be the "Safest Place to get a CDL physical".** If you don't treat "sick" patients, you are probably the safest place for drivers. Make sure your motor carrier clients and drivers know your office is a safer environment to obtain a medical certificate. Have drivers wait outside or in their vehicle until you are ready to take them into the exam room. Call or text them when you are ready, or get a pager system like what many restaurants use. Take the driver directly into the exam room.
- 4. Get an Online Scheduling program.** This allows drivers to schedule an appointment without even calling, not just for now, but for appointments nearer to June 30<sup>th</sup>. The TeamCME system(\$14.95 a month) allows you to set your hours and appointment schedule. We can add it to your TeamCME webpage, map and mobile app feature. If you have your own website we can give you the instructions to add it to your website. Online scheduling will be a game changer now and as we get close to June 30<sup>th</sup>.
- 5.** If you don't have one, get a TeamCME Webpage!! Login as a member and click on "Get a commercial driver webpage" under Resources.

We are placing the following on ALL TeamCME Webpages:

**"Our Clinic is a Safer Environment for Drivers....Where "Sick" People *DON'T* Go".**

This is the new massive advertising campaign that TeamCME sent to OOIDA and continues to send to 1.6 million Motor Carriers. Members have reported that Major Motor Carriers are contacting their offices for the first time!!

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