

DMVQ PRINTABLE CHECKLIST

Ohio CDL Checklist

Use this for a commercial learner's permit, CDL issuance or renewal, and self-certification.








Scan for the full web guide

Testing is elsewhere

CDL knowledge tests happen at driver exam stations and skills tests at CDL testing locations. Official DMV or BMV offices issue the CLP and CDL and process self-certification.

BRING THESE

Bring for permit, issuance, or renewal

-  **Your current credential**
A valid Ohio driver license for a new CLP, or your current CDL for a renewal.
-  **Medical Examiner's Certificate**
From a DOT physical by an examiner on the National Registry, if your category requires one.
-  **Form BMV 2159**
The CDL Self-Certification Authorization, declaring your category of operation.
-  **Proof of lawful status**
Proof of U.S. citizenship or lawful permanent residency.
-  **Payment**
Permit, issuance, and renewal fees are listed on the Ohio BMV fee schedule. Confirm current amounts.

DECISION POINT

New, renewing, or HazMat?

New CDL

Knowledge tests, then a CLP held at least 14 days, Entry-Level Driver Training with an FMCSA-registered provider, then the skills test.

Renewal

In person at an official DMV or BMV office, or online if you qualify. Keep self-certification and your medical certificate current.

HazMat

Hazardous-materials endorsements add a TSA background check and periodic renewal of that clearance.

AT THE VISIT

Simple steps

- 1** Pass your DOT physical and the CDL knowledge tests at a driver exam station.
- 2** Get your commercial learner's permit at an official DMV or BMV office, then hold it 14 days and complete ELDT.
- 3** Pass the skills test at a CDL skills testing location.
- 4** Return to an official DMV or BMV office for issuance, self-certification, and your photo.

Avoid a return trip

Do not expect to test at an official DMV or BMV office. Knowledge and skills tests happen elsewhere.

Do not let your medical card or self-certification lapse. A lapse can downgrade your commercial privileges.

Do not skip ELDT. New applicants must train with an FMCSA-registered provider before the skills test.

For illustrative purposes only. This DMVQ guide is a plain-language planning aid. Requirements, fees, and eligibility are subject to change and may not reflect the most up to date information. Verify current requirements at bmv.ohio.gov or call an official DMV or BMV office before visiting.

OFFICIAL SOURCES

- | Ohio BMV commercial driver license
- | Ohio BMV driving tests

UPDATED MAY 2026

AKR-DMVQ-CDL Rev 05/2026

Web guide: dmvq.com/cdl-commercial-drivers-license

Accessible version: dmvq.com/downloads/cdl-commercial-drivers-license/