

1 **PROPOSAL OF REVISIONS TO**

2 **SUBCHAPTER A. GENERAL PROVISIONS**

3 **43 TAC §218.2**

4 **SUBCHAPTER B. MOTOR CARRIER REGISTRATION**

5 **43 TAC §218.13**

6

7 **INTRODUCTION.** The Texas Department of Motor Vehicles (department) proposes amendments to 43  
8 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) Chapter 218, Motor Carriers; Subchapter A, General Provisions, §218.2;  
9 and Subchapter B, Motor Carrier Registration, §218.13 regarding clarifications to the rule text and the  
10 requirement for a sole proprietor motor carrier to provide notice to the department when the sole  
11 proprietor is imprisoned after an event described by Occupations Code, §53.021(b) as amended by Senate  
12 Bill (SB) 1080, 89<sup>th</sup> Legislature, Regular Session (2025). The proposed amendments are necessary to  
13 provide the department with information to update its records regarding the automatic revocation of a  
14 motor carrier’s certificate of registration under Occupations Code, §53.021(b). A proposed amendment  
15 to §218.2 is necessary to add a definition for the term “for-hire motor carrier.” Proposed amendments to  
16 §218.13 are also necessary to clarify the rule text regarding motor carriers that are required to provide  
17 updates to the department and the use of an authorized representative to file an application with the  
18 department or provide the department with any required information and updates.

19 **EXPLANATION.**

20 A proposed amendment to §218.2 would add a definition for the term “for-hire motor carrier” for  
21 clarity and consistency because the term is included in current §218.2(b)(14) in the definition for “farm  
22 vehicle” and in proposed new §218.13(k). Proposed amendments to §218.2 would also renumber the  
23 definitions due to the proposed new definition for the term “for-hire motor carrier.”

1           A proposed amendment to §218.13(a)(3)(A) would delete a sentence that says, “An authorized  
2 representative of the applicant who files an application with the department on behalf of an applicant  
3 may be required to provide written proof of authority to act on behalf of the applicant.” The deletion is  
4 necessary to prevent any conflict with proposed new language in §218.13(j) and (l). As stated below,  
5 proposed new §218.13(l) would expand this language for all applicants under Chapter 218 and for a motor  
6 carrier with a certificate of registration. A person who submits an application on behalf of a motor carrier  
7 might not be the only authorized representative or the current authorized representative for the motor  
8 carrier.

9           Proposed amendments to §218.13(i) would clarify that the requirement for a motor carrier to  
10 update certain information in the department’s online system only applies if the motor carrier has a  
11 certificate of registration that has not expired and has not been revoked.

12           Proposed new §218.13(j) would require a sole proprietor motor carrier with an unexpired  
13 certificate of registration to notify the department, through the sole proprietor’s authorized  
14 representative, of the sole proprietor’s imprisonment for a reason that would cause automatic revocation  
15 of the motor carrier’s certificate of registration by operation of law under Occupations Code, §53.021(b).  
16 This reporting is necessary as a means for the department to learn about a motor carrier’s imprisonment  
17 because this information is not automatically reported to the department by state or federal law  
18 enforcement agencies. The department has access to criminal history record information regarding  
19 convictions under Texas law under Government Code, §411.122(d)(24), but the department is not notified  
20 when a motor carrier is imprisoned due to a conviction under Texas law. Also, the department does not  
21 receive notice regarding convictions under federal law or the law of a U.S. state other than Texas because  
22 the department does not have access to criminal history record information that is maintained or indexed

1 through the Federal Bureau of Investigation under Government Code, §411.12511 regarding a conviction  
2 of a motor carrier under Transportation Code, Chapter 643.

3 Proposed new §218.13(j)(1)(A) would refer to proposed new 43 TAC §211.25 of this title (relating  
4 to Criminal Offense Guidelines; Imprisonment), which the department published in this issue of the *Texas*  
5 *Register*, because proposed new 43 TAC §211.25 defines the offenses that the department has  
6 determined are directly related to the duties and responsibilities of a motor carrier with a certificate of  
7 registration under Transportation Code, Chapter 643.

8 Proposed new §218.13(k) would provide the deadline for the notice under proposed new  
9 §218.13(j), so the department can timely update its records, which the department, law enforcement,  
10 and potential customers of a motor carrier rely on. Under proposed new §218.13(k), the deadline for the  
11 notice under proposed new §218.13(j) would be within 15 days of the date the sole proprietor is  
12 imprisoned if the imprisonment occurs on or after May 1, 2026. The proposed deadline would only apply  
13 to an imprisonment that occurs on or after May 1, 2026, because the proposed amendments to §218.13  
14 and proposed new §211.25 are anticipated to become effective on May 1, 2026, if the department's board  
15 approves the adoption of these proposed revisions.

16 Proposed new §218.13(k) would also require the notice under proposed new §218.13(j) to be sent  
17 to the department using the email address listed on the department's website for this purpose because  
18 the department's system is not currently programmed to allow such notices to be provided within the  
19 department's system. In addition, proposed new §218.13(k) would require the notice to the department  
20 under proposed new §218.13(j) to contain the sole proprietor's name; the sole proprietor's certificate of  
21 registration number under Transportation Code, Chapter 643; the date the sole proprietor was  
22 imprisoned; the reason the sole proprietor was imprisoned using one of the reasons listed in proposed  
23 new §218.13(j); the citation to the statute, administrative rule, or regulation regarding the felony offense

1 for which the sole proprietor was imprisoned if the sole proprietor was imprisoned for a felony offense  
2 that falls under proposed new §218.13(j)(1); whether the sole proprietor is a motor carrier of passengers,  
3 a for-hire motor carrier of cargo, a household goods carrier, or a motor carrier who transports hazardous  
4 materials under Transportation Code, Chapter 643; and the name and phone number of the sole  
5 proprietor's authorized representative. The references to Transportation Code, Chapter 643 indicate that  
6 the sole proprietor shall provide the requested information regarding the sole proprietor's certificate of  
7 registration regarding intrastate operating authority. Proposed new §218.13(k) would require the notice  
8 to include the specified pieces of information so the department can verify whether the sole proprietor  
9 motor carrier's certificate of registration was automatically revoked by operation of law under  
10 Occupations Code, §53.021(b), including whether a felony conviction directly relates to the duties and  
11 responsibilities of the motor carrier under proposed new §211.25, and to allow the department to contact  
12 the motor carrier through their authorized representative while the motor carrier is imprisoned.

13 Proposed new §218.13(j) and (k) only apply to a sole proprietor motor carrier because only an  
14 individual can be imprisoned. Also, the department does not have the statutory authority to apply these  
15 amendments to individuals who are associated with a license holder. If the motor carrier is a sole  
16 proprietor, the sole proprietor has the license under Transportation Code, Chapter 643. The statutory  
17 authority for the automatic revocation of a license under Occupations Code, §53.021(b) only applies to  
18 the license holder.

19 Proposed new §218.13(l) would expand the language in current §218.13(a)(3)(A) by expressly  
20 authorizing an applicant under Chapter 218 and a motor carrier with a certificate of registration to submit  
21 an application to the department or provide the department with any required information or updates  
22 through an authorized representative. Proposed new §218.13(l) would also state that, upon request by  
23 the department, any representative of an applicant or motor carrier shall provide the department with

1 written proof of authority to act on behalf of the applicant or motor carrier. Proposed new §218.13(l)  
2 addresses the reality that authorized representatives are sometimes necessary to run a business, and  
3 would allow motor carriers to fulfill their duties to provide notice to the department even when their  
4 communication was limited because they were imprisoned. In addition, proposed new §218.13(l) clarifies  
5 the department's authority to verify that an individual is authorized to act on behalf of an applicant or  
6 motor carrier, so the department can ensure the integrity of its records.

7         The proposed amendments are necessary for the department to maintain accurate records for  
8 the department's administration of Transportation Code, Chapter 643 and for law enforcement to enforce  
9 certain laws regarding motor carriers, including Transportation Code, Chapter 644 and the administrative  
10 rules that the Texas Department of Public Safety adopted under Transportation Code, Chapter 644. In  
11 addition, a potential customer of a motor carrier has access to certain information on the department's  
12 website to help the potential customer decide whether to use the services of the motor carrier. These  
13 proposed amendments require sole proprietor motor carriers to provide the department with the  
14 necessary information to enable the department to verify whether the sole proprietor's certificate of  
15 registration under Transportation Code, Chapter 643 was automatically revoked by operation of law  
16 under Occupations Code, §53.021(b), and the date of the automatic revocation. Proposed new §218.13(k)  
17 would require a sole proprietor to tell the department whether the sole proprietor is a motor carrier of  
18 passengers, a for-hire motor carrier of cargo, a household goods carrier, or a motor carrier who transports  
19 hazardous materials because certain felony offenses under proposed new §211.25 would only apply to a  
20 motor carrier based on the motor carrier's type of operation. The department would use the information  
21 that a sole proprietor provides to the department under proposed new §218.13(j) and (k) to update the  
22 department's system to indicate whether the sole proprietor's certificate of registration was revoked, the  
23 date of the revocation, and that the revocation occurred under Occupations Code, §53.021(b).

1 Transportation Code, §643.054(a-1) authorizes the department to deny a certificate of registration if the  
2 applicant had a registration revoked under Transportation Code, §643.252, so the department's records  
3 need to indicate whether a revocation occurred under authority other than Transportation Code,  
4 §643.252.

5 **FISCAL NOTE AND LOCAL EMPLOYMENT IMPACT STATEMENT.** Glenna Bowman, Chief Financial Officer,  
6 has determined that for each year of the first five years the amendments will be in effect, there will be no  
7 significant fiscal impact to state or local governments as a result of the enforcement or administration of  
8 the proposal. Clint Thompson, Director of the Motor Carrier Division, has determined that there will be  
9 no significant impact on local employment or the local economy as a result of the proposal.

10 **PUBLIC BENEFIT AND COST NOTE.** Mr. Thompson has also determined that, for each year of the first five  
11 years the amended sections are in effect, there is an anticipated public benefit.

12 Anticipated Public Benefits. A public benefit anticipated as a result of the proposal is that the  
13 department would have the information it needs to maintain accurate records and provide accurate  
14 public information regarding the automatic revocation of a sole proprietor's certificate of registration  
15 under Occupations Code, §53.021(b).

16 Anticipated Costs To Comply With The Proposal. Mr. Thompson anticipates that there will be no  
17 costs to comply with these amendments.

18 **ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT AND REGULATORY FLEXIBILITY ANALYSIS.** As required by Government  
19 Code, §2006.002, the department has determined that the proposed amendments will not have an  
20 adverse economic effect on small businesses, micro-businesses, and rural communities because the  
21 amendments require a sole proprietor motor carrier to provide the department with certain minimal  
22 information that is only required if the motor carrier is imprisoned due to a reason listed in Occupations

1 Code, §53.021(b). Therefore, the department is not required to prepare a regulatory flexibility analysis  
2 under Government Code, §2006.002.

3 **TAKINGS IMPACT ASSESSMENT.** The department has determined that no private real property interests  
4 are affected by this proposal and that this proposal does not restrict or limit an owner's right to property  
5 that would otherwise exist in the absence of government action and, therefore, does not constitute a  
6 taking or require a takings impact assessment under Government Code, §2007.043.

7 **GOVERNMENT GROWTH IMPACT STATEMENT.** The department has determined that each year of the  
8 first five years the proposed amendments are in effect, no government program would be created or  
9 eliminated. Implementation of the proposed amendments would not require the creation of new  
10 employee positions or elimination of existing employee positions. Implementation would not require an  
11 increase or decrease in future legislative appropriations to the department or an increase or decrease of  
12 fees paid to the department. The proposed amendments create a new regulation. The proposed  
13 amendments expand an existing regulation regarding the use of an authorized representative, as stated  
14 above. The proposed amendments do not limit or repeal an existing regulation. Lastly, the proposed  
15 amendments do not affect the number of individuals subject to the rule's applicability and will not affect  
16 this state's economy.

17 **REQUEST FOR PUBLIC COMMENT.**

18 If you want to comment on the proposal, submit your written comments by 5:00 p.m. CST on January 26,  
19 2026. The department requests information related to the cost, benefit, or effect of the proposed  
20 amendments, including any applicable data, research, or analysis, from any person required to comply  
21 with the proposed amendments or any other interested person. A request for a public hearing must be  
22 sent separately from your written comments. Send written comments or hearing requests by email to  
23 [rules@txdmv.gov](mailto:rules@txdmv.gov) or by mail to Office of General Counsel, Texas Department of Motor Vehicles, 4000

1 Jackson Avenue, Austin, Texas 78731. If a hearing is held, the department will consider written comments  
2 and public testimony presented at the hearing.

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4

#### SUBCHAPTER A. GENERAL PROVISIONS

5

#### 43 TAC §218.2

6 **STATUTORY AUTHORITY.** The Texas Department of Motor Vehicles (department) proposes amendments  
7 under Transportation Code, §643.003, which authorizes the department to adopt rules to administer  
8 Transportation Code, Chapter 643; Transportation Code, §1002.001, which authorizes the board to  
9 adopt rules that are necessary and appropriate to implement the powers and duties of the department  
10 under the Transportation Code and other laws of this state; and the statutory authority referenced  
11 throughout this preamble and in the rule text, which is incorporated herein by reference.

12 **CROSS REFERENCE.** The proposed amendments would implement Transportation Code, Chapter 643.

13

14 Text.

15 §218.2. Definitions.

16 (a) The definitions contained in Transportation Code, Chapter 643 apply to this chapter. In the  
17 event of a conflict with this chapter, the definitions contained in Transportation Code, Chapter 643  
18 control; however, the definition of the word "director" in this section controls over the definition in  
19 Transportation Code, Chapter 643.

20 (b) The following words and terms, when used in this chapter, shall have the following  
21 meanings, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

22 (1) Advertisement--An oral, written, graphic, or pictorial statement or representation  
23 made in the course of soliciting intrastate household goods transportation services, including, without



1 limitation, a statement or representation made in a newspaper, magazine, or other publication, or  
2 contained in a notice, sign, poster, display, circular, pamphlet, or letter, or on radio, the Internet, or via  
3 an online service, or on television. The term does not include direct communication between a  
4 household goods carrier or carrier's representative and a prospective shipper, and does not include the  
5 following:

6 (A) promotional items of nominal value such as ball caps, tee shirts, and pens;

7 (B) business cards;

8 (C) listings not paid for by the household goods carrier or its household goods  
9 carrier's agent; and

10 (D) listings of a household goods carrier's business name or assumed name as it  
11 appears on the motor carrier certificate of registration, and the household goods carrier's address, and  
12 contact information in a directory or similar publication.

13 (2) Approved association--A group of household goods carriers, its agents, or both, that  
14 has an approved collective ratemaking agreement on file with the department under §218.64 of this  
15 title (relating to Rates).

16 (3) Binding proposal--A written offer stating the exact price for the transportation of  
17 specified household goods and any related services.

18 (4) Board--Board of the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles.

19 (5) Certificate of insurance--A certificate prescribed by and filed with the department in  
20 which an insurance carrier or surety company warrants that a motor carrier for whom the certificate is  
21 filed has the minimum coverage as required by §218.16 of this title (relating to Insurance  
22 Requirements).

23 (6) Certificate of registration--A certificate issued by the department to a motor carrier

1 and containing a unique number.

2 (7) Certified scale--Any scale designed for weighing motor vehicles, including trailers or  
3 semitrailers not attached to a tractor, and certified by an authorized scale inspection and licensing  
4 authority. A certified scale may also be a platform-type or warehouse-type scale properly inspected and  
5 certified.

6 (8) Commercial motor vehicle--As defined in Transportation Code, §548.001. The  
7 definition for commercial motor vehicle does not include:

8 (A) a farm vehicle with a gross weight, registered weight, or gross weight rating  
9 of less than 48,000 pounds;

10 (B) a cotton vehicle registered under Transportation Code, §504.505;

11 (C) a vehicle registered with the Railroad Commission under Natural Resources  
12 Code, §113.131 and §116.072;

13 (D) a vehicle operated by a governmental entity;

14 (E) a motor vehicle exempt from registration by the Unified Carrier Registration  
15 Act of 2005; and

16 (F) a tow truck, as defined by Occupations Code, §2308.002.

17 (9) Conspicuous--Written in a size, color, and contrast so as to be readily noticed and  
18 understood.

19 (10) Conversion--A change in an entity's organization that is implemented with a  
20 Certificate of Conversion issued by the Texas Secretary of State under Business Organizations Code,  
21 §10.154.

22 (11) Director--The director of the department's Motor Carrier Division, whom the  
23 executive director of the department designated as the director under Transportation Code,

1 §643.001(2).

2 (12) Estimate--An informal oral calculation of the approximate price of transporting  
3 household goods.

4 (13) Farmer--A person who operates a farm or is directly involved in cultivating land,  
5 crops, or livestock that are owned by or are under the direct control of that person.

6 (14) Farm vehicle--A commercial motor vehicle that is:

7 (A) controlled and operated by a farmer to transport either:

8 (i) agricultural products; or

9 (ii) farm machinery, farm supplies, or both, to and from a farm;

10 (B) not being used in the operation of a for-hire motor carrier;

11 (C) not carrying hazardous materials of a type or quantity that requires the

12 commercial motor vehicle to be placarded in accordance with 49 C.F.R. §177.823; and

13 (D) being used within 150 air-miles of the farmer's farm.

14 (15) FMCSA--Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration.

15 (16) For-hire motor carrier--A motor carrier that provides transportation of persons or  
16 cargo for compensation in one or more motor vehicles.

17 (17) [(16)] Foreign commercial motor vehicle--As defined in Transportation Code,

18 §648.001.

19 (18) [(17)] Gross weight rating--The maximum loaded weight of any combination of  
20 truck, tractor, and trailer equipment as specified by the manufacturer of the equipment. If the  
21 manufacturer's rating is unknown, the gross weight rating is the greater of:

22 (A) the actual weight of the equipment and its lading; or

23 (B) the maximum lawful weight of the equipment and its lading.

1                    (19) [~~(18)~~] Household goods agent--A motor carrier who transports household goods on  
2 behalf of another motor carrier.

3                    (20) [~~(19)~~] Household goods carrier--A motor carrier who transports household goods  
4 for compensation, regardless of the size of the vehicle.

5                    (21) [~~(20)~~] Inventory--A list of the items in a household goods shipment and the  
6 condition of the items.

7                    (22) [~~(21)~~] Leasing business--A person that leases vehicles requiring registration under  
8 Subchapter B of this chapter to a motor carrier that must be registered.

9                    (23) [~~(22)~~] Mediation--A non-adversarial form of alternative dispute resolution in which  
10 an impartial person, the mediator, facilitates communication between two parties to promote  
11 reconciliation, settlement, or understanding.

12                    (24) [~~(23)~~] Motor Carrier or carrier--As defined in Transportation Code, §643.001(6).

13                    (25) [~~(24)~~] Motor transportation broker--As defined in Transportation Code, §646.001.

14                    (26) [~~(25)~~] Moving services contract--A contract between a household goods carrier and  
15 shipper, such as a bill of lading, receipt, order for service, or work order, that sets out the terms of the  
16 services to be provided.

17                    (27) [~~(26)~~] Multiple user--An individual or business who has a contract with a household  
18 goods carrier and who used the carrier's services more than 50 times within the preceding 12 months.

19                    (28) [~~(27)~~] Not-to-exceed proposal--A formal written offer stating the maximum price a  
20 shipper can be required to pay for the transportation of specified household goods and any related  
21 services. The offer may also state the non-binding approximate price. Any offer based on hourly rates  
22 must state the maximum number of hours required for the transportation and related services unless  
23 there is an acknowledgment from the shipper that the number of hours is not necessary.

1                    (29) [~~(28)~~] Principal business address--A single location that serves as a motor carrier's  
2 headquarters and where it maintains its operational records or can make them available.

3                    (30) [~~(29)~~] Print advertisement--A written, graphic, or pictorial statement or  
4 representation made in the course of soliciting intrastate household goods transportation services,  
5 including, without limitation, a statement or representation made in or contained in a newspaper,  
6 magazine, circular, or other publication. The term does not include direct communication between a  
7 household goods carrier or carrier's representative and a prospective shipper, and does not include the  
8 following:

9                    (A) promotional items of nominal value such as ball caps, tee shirts, and pens;

10                    (B) business cards;

11                    (C) Internet websites;

12                    (D) listings not paid for by the household goods carrier or its household goods  
13 carrier's agent; and

14                    (E) listings of a household goods carrier's business name or assumed name as it  
15 appears on the motor carrier certificate of registration, and the household goods carrier's address, and  
16 contact information in a directory or similar publication.

17                    (31) [~~(30)~~] Public highway--Any publicly owned and maintained street, road, or highway  
18 in this state.

19                    (32) [~~(31)~~] Replacement vehicle--A vehicle that takes the place of another vehicle that  
20 has been removed from service.

21                    (33) [~~(32)~~] Revocation--The withdrawal of registration and privileges by the department  
22 or a registration state.

23                    (34) [~~(33)~~] Shipper--The owner of household goods or the owner's representative.

1                   (35) [(34)] Short-term lease--A lease of 30 days or less.

2                   (36) [(35)] Substitute vehicle--A vehicle that is leased from a leasing business and that is  
3 used as a temporary replacement for a vehicle that has been taken out of service for maintenance,  
4 repair, or any other reason causing the temporary unavailability of the permanent vehicle.

5                   (37) [(36)] Suspension--Temporary removal of privileges granted to a registrant by the  
6 department or a registration state.

7                   (38) [(37)] Unified Carrier Registration System or UCR--A motor vehicle registration  
8 system established under 49 U.S.C. §14504a or a successor federal registration program.

9                   (39) [(38)] USDOT--United States Department of Transportation.

10                  (40) [(39)] USDOT number--An identification number issued by or under the authority of  
11 the FMCSA or its successor.

12

13   **SUBCHAPTER B. MOTOR CARRIER REGISTRATION**

14   **43 TAC §218.13**

15

16 **STATUTORY AUTHORITY.** The Texas Department of Motor Vehicles (department) proposes amendments  
17 under Transportation Code, §643.003, which authorizes the department to adopt rules to administer  
18 Transportation Code, Chapter 643; Transportation Code, §1002.001, which authorizes the board to adopt  
19 rules that are necessary and appropriate to implement the powers and duties of the department under  
20 the Transportation Code and other laws of this state; Government Code, §2001.004(1), which requires  
21 state agencies to adopt rules of practice stating the nature and requirements of all available formal and  
22 informal procedures; and the statutory authority referenced throughout this preamble and in the rule  
23 text, which is incorporated herein by reference.

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**CROSS REFERENCE TO STATUTE.** The proposed amendments would implement Transportation Code, Chapter 643; and Government Code, §2001.004(1).

Text.

§218.13. Application for Motor Carriers Registration.

(a) Form of original application. An original application for motor carrier registration must be filed electronically in the department's designated motor carrier registration system, must be in the form prescribed by the director and must contain, at a minimum, the following information and documents.

(1) USDOT number. A valid USDOT number issued to the applicant.

(2) Applicant information and documents. All applications must include the following information and documents:

(A) The applicant's name, business type (e.g., sole proprietor, corporation, or limited liability company), telephone number, email address, and Secretary of State file number, as applicable. The applicant's name and email address must match the information the applicant provided to FMCSA to obtain the USDOT number that the applicant provided in its application to the department.

(B) An application submitted by an entity, such as a corporation, general partnership, limited liability company, limited liability corporation, limited partnership, or partnership, must include the entity's Texas Comptroller's Taxpayer Number or the entity's Federal Employer Identification Number.

(C) A legible and accurate electronic image of each applicable required document:

(i) The certificate of filing, certificate of incorporation, or certificate of registration on file with the Texas Secretary of State; and

1 (ii) each assumed name certificate on file with the Secretary of State or  
2 county clerk.

3 (3) Information and documents regarding applicant's owners, representatives, and  
4 affiliates. All applications must include the following information and documents on the applicant's  
5 owners, representatives, and affiliates, as applicable:

6 (A) The contact name, email address, and telephone number of the person  
7 submitting the application. ~~[An authorized representative of the applicant who files an application with  
8 the department on behalf of an applicant may be required to provide written proof of authority to act on  
9 behalf of the applicant.]~~

10 (B) The name, social security number or Individual Taxpayer Identification  
11 Number (to the extent the natural person is authorized by law to obtain one of these numbers), date of  
12 birth, business address, and ownership percentage for each owner, partner, member, or principal if the  
13 applicant is not a publicly traded company.

14 (C) The name, social security number or Individual Taxpayer Identification  
15 Number (to the extent the natural person is authorized by law to obtain one of these numbers), date of  
16 birth, and business address for the following if the applicant is owned in full or in part by a legal entity:

17 (i) each officer, director, or trustee authorized to act on behalf of the  
18 applicant; and

19 (ii) each manager or representative who has or exercises authority to  
20 direct some or all of the applicant's operational policy regarding compliance with applicable laws  
21 regarding a motor carrier, excluding sales functions, on behalf of the applicant.

22 (D) The name, employer identification number, ownership percentage, and non-  
23 profit or publicly traded status for each legal entity that owns the applicant in full or in part.



1 (E) The name, social security number or Individual Taxpayer Identification  
2 Number (to the extent the natural person is authorized by law to obtain one of these numbers), date of  
3 birth, and business address for each person who serves or will serve as the applicant's manager, operator,  
4 or representative who has or exercises authority to direct some or all of the applicant's operational policy  
5 regarding compliance with applicable laws regarding a motor carrier, excluding sales functions.

6 (F) A legible and accurate electronic image of at least one of the following  
7 unexpired identity documents for each natural person identified in the application:

8 (i) a driver license issued by a state or territory of the United States. If the  
9 driver license was issued by the Texas Department of Public Safety, the image must also include the audit  
10 number listed on the Texas driver license;

11 (ii) Texas identification card issued by the Texas Department of Public  
12 Safety under Transportation Code, Chapter 521, Subchapter E, or an identification certificate issued by a  
13 state or territory of the United States;

14 (iii) license to carry a handgun issued by the Texas Department of Public  
15 Safety under Government Code, Chapter 411, Subchapter H;

16 (iv) United States passport; or

17 (v) United States military identification.

18 (4) Principal business address and mailing address. The applicant must provide the  
19 applicant's principal business address, which must be a physical address. If the mailing address is different  
20 from the principal business address, the applicant must also provide the applicant's mailing address.

21 (5) Legal agent.

22 (A) A Texas-domiciled motor carrier must provide the name, telephone number,  
23 and address of a legal agent for service of process if the agent is different from the motor carrier.

1 (B) A motor carrier domiciled outside Texas must provide the name, telephone  
2 number, and Texas address of the legal agent for service of process.

3 (C) A legal agent for service of process shall be a Texas resident, a domestic  
4 corporation, or a foreign corporation authorized to transact business in Texas with a Texas physical  
5 address, rather than a post office box, for service of process.

6 (6) Description of vehicles. An application must include a motor carrier equipment report  
7 identifying each motor vehicle that requires registration and that the carrier proposes to operate. Each  
8 motor vehicle must be identified by its vehicle identification number, make, model year, and type of cargo  
9 and by the unit number assigned to the motor vehicle by the motor carrier. Any subsequent registration  
10 of vehicles must be made under subsection (e) of this section.

11 (7) Type of motor carrier operations. An applicant must state if the applicant proposes to  
12 transport passengers, household goods, or hazardous materials.

13 (8) Insurance coverage. An applicant must indicate insurance coverage as required by  
14 §218.16 of this title (relating to Insurance Requirements).

15 (9) Safety certification. Each motor carrier must complete, as part of the application, a  
16 certification stating that the motor carrier knows and will conduct operations in accordance with all  
17 federal and state safety regulations.

18 (10) Drug-testing certification. Each motor carrier must certify, as part of the application,  
19 that the motor carrier is in compliance with the drug-testing requirements of 49 C.F.R. Part 382. If the  
20 motor carrier belongs to a consortium, as defined by 49 C.F.R. Part 382, the applicant must provide the  
21 names of the persons operating the consortium.

22 (11) Duration of registration.

1 (A) An applicant must indicate the duration of the desired registration. Except as  
2 provided otherwise in this section, registration may be for seven calendar days, 90 calendar days, one  
3 year, or two years. The duration of registration chosen by the applicant will be applied to all vehicles.

4 (i) Household goods carriers may not obtain seven-day or 90-day  
5 certificates of registration.

6 (ii) Motor carriers that transport passengers in a commercial motor  
7 vehicle as defined by Transportation Code, §548.001(1)(B) may not obtain seven-day or 90-day certificates  
8 of registration, unless approved by the director.

9 (B) Interstate motor carriers that operate in intrastate commerce and meet the  
10 requirements under §218.14(c) of this title (relating to Expiration and Renewal of Commercial Motor  
11 Vehicles Registration) are not required to renew a certificate of registration issued under this section.

12 (12) Additional requirements. The following fees, documents, and information must be  
13 submitted with the application.

14 (A) An application must be accompanied by an application fee of:

15 (i) \$100 for annual and biennial registrations;

16 (ii) \$25 for 90-day registrations; or

17 (iii) \$5 for seven-day registrations.

18 (B) An application must be accompanied by a vehicle registration fee of:

19 (i) \$10 for each vehicle that the motor carrier proposes to operate under  
20 a seven-day, 90-day, or annual registration; or

21 (ii) \$20 for each vehicle that the motor carrier proposes to operate under  
22 a biennial registration.

1 (C) An application must be accompanied by proof of insurance or financial  
2 responsibility and the insurance filing fee as required by §218.16.

3 (D) An application must include the completed New Applicant Questionnaire  
4 (Applicant Questionnaire), which consists of questions and requirements, such as the following:

5 (i) Have you ever had another motor carrier certificate of registration  
6 number issued by the department in the three years prior to the date of this application? If your answer  
7 is yes, provide the certificate of registration number for the motor carrier(s). In the Applicant  
8 Questionnaire, the word "you" means the applicant or any business that is operated, managed, or  
9 otherwise controlled by or affiliated with the applicant or a family member, corporate officer, manager,  
10 operator, or owner (if the business is not a publicly traded company) of the applicant. In the Applicant  
11 Questionnaire, the word "manager" means a person who has or exercises authority to direct some or all  
12 of the applicant's operational policy regarding compliance with applicable laws regarding a motor carrier,  
13 excluding sales functions.

14 (ii) Have you had a Compliance Review or a New Entrant Audit by the  
15 Texas Department of Public Safety that resulted in an Unsatisfactory Safety Rating in the three years prior  
16 to the date of your application? If your answer is yes, provide the USDOT number(s) and the certificate of  
17 registration number(s) issued by the department.

18 (iii) Are you currently under an Order to Cease from the Texas  
19 Department of Public Safety? If your answer is yes, provide the motor carrier's USDOT number(s) and the  
20 Carrier Profile Number(s). The Texas Department of Public Safety assigns a Carrier Profile Number (CP#)  
21 when they perform a compliance review on a motor carrier's operations to determine whether the motor  
22 carrier meets the safety fitness standards.

1 (iv) Are you related to another motor carrier, or have you been related to  
2 another motor carrier within the three years prior to the date of your application? The relationship may  
3 be through a person (including a family member), corporate officer, or partner who also operates or has  
4 operated as a motor carrier in Texas. If your answer is yes, state how you are related and provide the  
5 motor carrier's name and the motor carrier's USDOT number, or the certificate of registration number  
6 issued by the department for each related motor carrier.

7 (v) Do you currently owe any administrative penalties to the department,  
8 regardless of when the final order was issued to assess the administrative penalties? If your answer is yes,  
9 provide the following information under which the administrative penalties were assessed:

10 (I) department's notice number(s); and

11 (II) the motor carrier's USDOT number and certificate of  
12 registration number issued by the department;

13 (vi) Name and title of person completing the Applicant  
14 Questionnaire; and

15 (vii) Is the person completing the Applicant Questionnaire an  
16 authorized representative of the applicant? If your answer is yes, please add the person's name, job title,  
17 phone number, and address.

18 (E) An applicant must state if the applicant is domiciled in a foreign country.

19 (F) An application must include a certification that the information and  
20 documents provided in the application are true and correct and that the applicant complied with the  
21 application requirements under Chapter 218 of this title (relating to Motor Carriers) and Transportation  
22 Code, Chapter 643.

1 (G) An application must be accompanied by any other information and  
2 documents required by the department to evaluate the application under current law, including board  
3 rules.

4 (13) Additional requirements for household goods carriers. The following information,  
5 documents, and certification must be submitted with all applications by household goods carriers:

6 (A) A copy of the tariff that sets out the maximum charges for transportation of  
7 household goods, or a copy of the tariff governing interstate transportation services. If an applicant is  
8 governed by a tariff that its association has already filed with the department under §218.65 of this title  
9 (relating to Tariff Registration), the applicant complies with the requirement in this subparagraph by  
10 checking the applicable box on the application to identify the association's tariff.

11 (B) If the motor vehicle is not titled in the name of the household goods carrier,  
12 the following lease information and documentation, notwithstanding §218.18(a) of this title (relating to  
13 Short-term Lease and Substitute Vehicles):

14 (i) a copy of a valid lease agreement for each motor vehicle that the  
15 household goods carrier will operate; and

16 (ii) the name of the lessor and their USDOT number for each motor  
17 vehicle leased to the household goods carrier under a short-term lease.

18 (C) A certification that the household goods carrier has procedures that comply  
19 with Code of Criminal Procedure, Article 62.063(b)(3), which prohibits certain people who are required to  
20 register as a sex offender from providing moving services in the residence of another person without  
21 supervision.

1 (14) Additional requirements for passenger carriers. The following information and  
2 documents must be submitted with all applications for motor carriers that transport passengers in a  
3 commercial motor vehicle as defined by Transportation Code, §548.001(1)(B):

4 (A) If the commercial motor vehicle is titled in the name of the motor carrier, a  
5 copy of the International Registration Plan registration receipt or a copy of the front and back of the title  
6 for each commercial motor vehicle; or

7 (B) If the commercial motor vehicle is not titled in the name of the motor carrier,  
8 the following lease information and documentation, notwithstanding §218.18(a) of this title:

9 (i) A copy of a valid lease agreement for each commercial motor vehicle;

10 and

11 (ii) The name of the lessor and their USDOT number for each commercial  
12 motor vehicle leased to the motor carrier under a short-term lease.

13 (b) Conditional acceptance of application. If an application has been conditionally accepted by the  
14 director pursuant to Transportation Code, §643.055, the applicant may not operate the following until  
15 the department has issued a certificate under Transportation Code, §643.054:

16 (1) a commercial motor vehicle or any other motor vehicle to transport household goods  
17 for compensation, or

18 (2) a commercial motor vehicle to transport persons or cargo.

19 (c) Approved application. An applicant meeting the requirements of this section and whose  
20 registration is approved shall be issued the following documents:

21 (1) Certificate of registration. The department shall issue a certificate of registration. The  
22 certificate of registration must contain the name and address of the motor carrier and a single registration  
23 number, regardless of the number of vehicles requiring registration that the carrier operates.

1                   (2) Insurance cab card. The department shall issue an insurance cab card listing all vehicles  
2 to be operated under the carrier's certificate of registration. The insurance cab card shall be continuously  
3 maintained at the motor carrier's principal business address. The insurance cab card must be valid for the  
4 same period as the motor carrier's certificate of registration and shall contain information regarding each  
5 vehicle registered by the motor carrier.

6                   (A) A current copy of the page of the insurance cab card on which the vehicle is  
7 shown shall be maintained in each vehicle listed, unless the motor carrier chooses to maintain a legible  
8 and accurate image of the insurance cab card on a wireless communication device in the vehicle or  
9 chooses to display such information on a wireless communication device by accessing the department's  
10 online system from the vehicle. The appropriate information concerning that vehicle shall be highlighted  
11 if the motor carrier chooses to maintain a hard copy of the insurance cab card or chooses to display an  
12 image of the insurance cab card on a wireless communication device in the vehicle. The insurance cab  
13 card or the display of such information on a wireless communications device shall serve as proof of  
14 insurance as long as the motor carrier has continuous insurance or financial responsibility on file with the  
15 department.

16                   (B) On demand by a department investigator or any other authorized government  
17 personnel, the driver shall present the highlighted page of the insurance cab card that is maintained in  
18 the vehicle or that is displayed on a wireless communication device in the vehicle. If the motor carrier  
19 chooses to display the information on a wireless communication device by accessing the department's  
20 online system, the driver shall locate the vehicle in the department's online system upon request by the  
21 department-certified inspector or other authorized government personnel.

22                   (C) The motor carrier shall notify the department in writing if it discontinues use  
23 of a registered motor vehicle before the expiration of its insurance cab card.



1 (D) Any erasure or alteration of an insurance cab card that the department  
2 printed out for the motor carrier renders it void.

3 (E) If an insurance cab card is lost, stolen, destroyed, or mutilated; if it becomes  
4 illegible; or if it otherwise needs to be replaced, the department shall print out a new insurance cab card  
5 at the request of the motor carrier. Motor carriers are authorized to print out a copy of a new insurance  
6 cab card using the department's online system.

7 (F) The department is not responsible for a motor carrier's inability to access the  
8 insurance cab card using the department's online system.

9 (d) Additional and replacement vehicles. A motor carrier required to obtain a certificate of  
10 registration under this section shall not operate additional vehicles unless the carrier identifies the  
11 vehicles on a form prescribed by the director and pays applicable fees as described in this subsection.

12 (1) Additional vehicles. To add a vehicle, a motor carrier must pay a fee of \$10 for each  
13 additional vehicle that the motor carrier proposes to operate under a seven-day, 90-day, or annual  
14 registration. To add a vehicle during the first year of a biennial registration, a motor carrier must pay a fee  
15 of \$20 for each vehicle. To add a vehicle during the second year of a biennial registration, a motor carrier  
16 must pay a fee of \$10 for each vehicle.

17 (2) Replacement vehicles. No fee is required for a vehicle that is replacing a vehicle for  
18 which the fee was previously paid. Before the replacement vehicle is put into operation, the motor carrier  
19 must notify the department, identify the vehicle being taken out of service, and identify the replacement  
20 vehicle on a form prescribed by the department. A motor carrier registered under seven-day registration  
21 may not replace vehicles.

1 (e) Supplement to original application. A motor carrier required to register under this section shall  
2 electronically file in the department's designated motor carrier registration system a supplemental  
3 application under the following circumstances.

4 (1) Change of cargo. A registered motor carrier may not begin transporting household  
5 goods or hazardous materials unless the carrier submits a supplemental application to the department  
6 and shows the department evidence of insurance or financial responsibility in the amounts specified by  
7 §218.16.

8 (2) Change of name. A motor carrier that changes its name shall file a supplemental  
9 application for registration no later than the effective date of the change. The motor carrier shall include  
10 evidence of insurance or financial responsibility in the new name and in the amounts specified by §218.16.  
11 A motor carrier that is a corporation must have its name change approved by the Texas Secretary of State  
12 before filing a supplemental application. A motor carrier incorporated outside the state of Texas must  
13 complete the name change under the law of its state of incorporation before filing a supplemental  
14 application.

15 (3) Change of address or legal agent for service of process. A motor carrier shall file a  
16 supplemental application for any change of address or any change of its legal agent for service of process  
17 no later than the effective date of the change. The address most recently filed will be presumed  
18 conclusively to be the current address.

19 (4) Change in principal officers and titles. A motor carrier that is a corporation shall file a  
20 supplemental application for any change in the principal officers and titles no later than the effective date  
21 of the change.

22 (5) Conversion of corporate structure. A motor carrier that has successfully completed a  
23 corporate conversion involving a change in the name of the corporation shall file a supplemental

1 application for registration and evidence of insurance or financial responsibility reflecting the new  
2 company name. The conversion must be approved by the Office of the Secretary of State before the  
3 supplemental application is filed.

4 (6) Change in drug-testing consortium status. A motor carrier that changes consortium  
5 status shall file a supplemental application that includes the names of the persons operating the  
6 consortium.

7 (7) Retaining a revoked or suspended certificate of registration number. A motor carrier  
8 may retain a prior certificate of registration number by:

9 (A) filing a supplemental application to reregister instead of filing an original  
10 application; and

11 (B) providing adequate evidence that the carrier has satisfactorily resolved the  
12 issue that gave rise to the suspension or revocation.

13 (f) Change of ownership. A motor carrier must file an original application for registration when  
14 there is a corporate merger or a change in the ownership of a sole proprietorship or of a partnership.

15 (g) Alternative vehicle registration for household goods agents. To avoid multiple registrations of  
16 a motor vehicle, a household goods agent's vehicles may be registered under the motor carrier's  
17 certificate of registration under this subsection.

18 (1) The carrier must notify the department on a form approved by the director of its intent  
19 to register its agent's vehicles under this subsection.

20 (2) When a carrier registers vehicles under this subsection, the carrier's certificate shall  
21 include all vehicles registered under its agent's certificates of registration. The carrier must register under  
22 its certificate of registration all vehicles operated on its behalf that do not appear on its agent's certificate  
23 of registration.

1 (3) The department may send the carrier a copy of any notification sent to the agent  
2 concerning circumstances that could lead to denial, suspension, or revocation of the agent's certificate.

3 (h) Substitute vehicles leased from leasing businesses. A registered motor carrier is not required  
4 to comply with the provisions of subsection (e) of this section for a substitute vehicle leased from a  
5 business registered under §218.18 of this title (relating to Short-term Lease and Substitute Vehicles). A  
6 motor carrier is not required to carry proof of registration as described in subsection (d) of this section if  
7 a copy of the lease agreement for the originally leased vehicle is carried in the cab of the temporary  
8 replacement vehicle.

9 (i) A [Once the] motor carrier with an unexpired [obtains a] certificate of registration that has not  
10 been revoked [,-the motor carrier] shall update its principal business address, mailing address, and email  
11 address in the department's online system within 30 days of a change to the information.

12 (j) A sole proprietor with an unexpired certificate of registration shall notify the department as  
13 specified in subsection (k) of this section, through the sole proprietor's authorized representative, of the  
14 sole proprietor's imprisonment for any of the following:

15 (1) a felony conviction for any of the following:

16 (A) an offense that directly relates to the duties and responsibilities of a motor  
17 carrier as defined in §211.25 of this title (relating to Criminal Offense Guidelines; Imprisonment);

18 (B) an offense listed in Code of Criminal Procedure, Article 42A.054; or

19 (C) a sexually violent offense, as defined by Code of Criminal Procedure, Article  
20 62.001;

21 (2) felony community supervision revocation;

22 (3) revocation of parole; or

23 (4) revocation of mandatory supervision.

1           (k) The notice under subsection (j) of this section shall be provided to the department:

2                   (1) for an imprisonment that occurs on or after May 1, 2026;

3                   (2) within 15 days of the date the sole proprietor is imprisoned;

4                   (3) using the email address listed on the department’s website for this purpose; and

5                   (4) with the following information:

6                           (A) the name of the sole proprietor;

7                           (B) the sole proprietor’s certificate of registration number under Transportation  
8 Code, Chapter 643;

9                           (C) the date the sole proprietor was imprisoned;

10                           (D) the reason the sole proprietor was imprisoned, using one of the reasons listed  
11 in subsection (j) of this section;

12                           (E) the citation to the statute, administrative rule, or regulation regarding the  
13 felony offense for which the sole proprietor was imprisoned if the sole proprietor was imprisoned for a  
14 felony conviction that falls under subsection (j)(1) of this section;

15                           (F) whether the sole proprietor is a motor carrier of passengers, a for-hire motor  
16 carrier of cargo, a household goods carrier, or a motor carrier who transports hazardous materials under  
17 Transportation Code, Chapter 643; and

18                           (G) the name and phone number of the sole proprietor’s authorized  
19 representative.

20           (l) An applicant under this chapter and a motor carrier with a certificate of registration may submit  
21 an application to the department or provide the department with any required information and updates  
22 through an authorized representative. Upon request by the department, a representative shall provide  
23 the department with written proof of authority to act on behalf of the applicant or motor carrier.

