

**321.208 Disqualification from operation of commercial motor vehicles — noncommercial driver's license — temporary license or permit.**

1. A person is disqualified from operating a commercial motor vehicle for one year upon a conviction or final administrative decision that the person has committed any of the following acts or offenses in any state or foreign jurisdiction while operating a commercial motor vehicle:

a. Operating a commercial motor vehicle with an alcohol concentration, as defined in [section 321J.1](#), of 0.04 or more.

b. Operating a commercial motor vehicle when, as a result of prior violations committed while operating a commercial motor vehicle, the person's commercial driver's license or commercial learner's permit is revoked, suspended, or canceled or the person is disqualified from operating a commercial motor vehicle.

c. Operating a commercial motor vehicle involved in a fatal accident and being convicted of manslaughter under [section 707.4](#) or [707.5](#) or vehicular homicide under [section 707.6A](#).

2. A person is disqualified from operating a commercial motor vehicle for one year upon a conviction or final administrative decision that the person has committed any of the following acts or offenses in any state or foreign jurisdiction while operating a commercial motor vehicle or while operating a noncommercial motor vehicle and holding a commercial driver's license or commercial learner's permit:

a. Operating a motor vehicle while intoxicated, as provided in [section 321J.2, subsection 1](#).

b. Refusal to submit to chemical testing required under [chapter 321J](#).

c. Leaving the scene or failure to stop or render aid at the scene of an accident involving the person's vehicle.

d. A felony or aggravated misdemeanor involving the use of a motor vehicle, other than a felony or aggravated misdemeanor otherwise provided for in [this section](#).

3. A person is disqualified from operating a commercial motor vehicle for three years if an act or offense described in [subsection 1 or 2](#) occurred while the person was operating a commercial motor vehicle transporting hazardous materials as defined in [49 C.F.R. §383.5](#).

4. A person is disqualified from operating a commercial motor vehicle for life if convicted or found to have committed two or more of the acts or offenses described in [subsection 1 or 2](#) arising out of two or more separate incidents. However, a disqualification for life is subject to a reduction to a ten-year disqualification as provided in [49 C.F.R. §383.51](#) as adopted by rule by the department.

5. A person is disqualified from operating a commercial motor vehicle for life upon a conviction that the person used a commercial motor vehicle in the commission of a felony or aggravated misdemeanor involving the manufacturing, distributing, or dispensing of a controlled substance as defined in [section 124.101](#). A person is disqualified from operating a commercial motor vehicle for life upon a conviction that the person used a noncommercial motor vehicle in the commission of a felony or aggravated misdemeanor involving the manufacturing, distributing, or dispensing of a controlled substance as defined in [section 124.101](#) and held a commercial driver's license or commercial learner's permit at the time the offense was committed.

6. A person is disqualified from operating a commercial motor vehicle for life upon a conviction that the person used a commercial motor vehicle in the commission of a felony involving an act or practice of human trafficking as defined in [section 710A.1](#).

7. A person is disqualified from operating a commercial motor vehicle if the person receives convictions for committing within any three-year period two or more of the following offenses while operating a commercial motor vehicle, or while operating a noncommercial motor vehicle and holding a commercial driver's license or commercial learner's permit if the convictions result in the revocation, cancellation, or suspension of the person's commercial driver's license, commercial learner's permit, or noncommercial motor vehicle driving privileges:

a. Operating a commercial motor vehicle upon a highway when not issued a commercial driver's license or commercial learner's permit.

b. Operating a commercial motor vehicle upon a highway when not issued the proper class of commercial driver's license, commercial learner's permit, or endorsements for the specific vehicle group being operated or for the passengers or type of cargo being transported.

c. Operating a commercial motor vehicle upon a highway without immediate possession of a commercial driver's license or commercial learner's permit valid for the vehicle operated.

d. Speeding fifteen miles per hour or more over the legal speed limit.

e. Reckless driving.

f. Any violation of the traffic laws, except a parking violation or a vehicle weight violation, which arises in connection with a fatal traffic accident.

g. Following another motor vehicle too closely.

h. Improper lane changes in violation of [section 321.306](#).

i. Violating a state or local law or ordinance on motor vehicle traffic control prohibiting texting while driving a commercial motor vehicle.

j. Violating a state or local law or ordinance on motor vehicle traffic control restricting or prohibiting the use of a hand-held mobile telephone while driving a commercial motor vehicle.

8. The period of disqualification under [subsection 7](#) shall be sixty days for two offenses within any three-year period and one hundred twenty days for three offenses within any three-year period. Multiple periods of disqualification shall be consecutive.

9. A person is disqualified from operating a commercial motor vehicle when the person's driving privilege is suspended or revoked.

10. A person is disqualified from operating a commercial motor vehicle:

a. For no less than one hundred eighty days and no more than one year upon conviction for the first violation of an out-of-service order; for no less than two and not more than five years upon conviction for a second violation of an out-of-service order in separate incidents within a ten-year period; and for not less than three and not more than five years upon conviction for a third or subsequent violation of an out-of-service order in separate incidents within a ten-year period.

b. For one year upon conviction for the first violation and for not less than three years and not more than five years upon conviction for a second or subsequent violation of an out-of-service order while transporting hazardous materials as defined in [49 C.F.R. §383.5](#), or while operating a commercial motor vehicle designed to transport more than fifteen passengers including the driver.

11. A person is disqualified from operating a commercial motor vehicle if the person is convicted of a first, second, or third railroad crossing at grade violation as follows:

a. A person is disqualified from operating a commercial motor vehicle for sixty days if the person is convicted of a first railroad crossing at grade violation under [section 321.341](#) or [321.343](#) and the violation occurred while the person was operating a commercial motor vehicle.

b. A person is disqualified from operating a commercial motor vehicle for one hundred twenty days if the person is convicted of a second railroad crossing at grade violation under [section 321.341](#) or [321.343](#), the violation occurred while the person was operating a commercial motor vehicle, and the violation occurred within three years after a first such violation.

c. A person is disqualified from operating a commercial motor vehicle for one year if the person is convicted of a third or subsequent railroad crossing at grade violation under [section 321.341](#) or [321.343](#), the violation occurred while the person was operating a commercial motor vehicle, and the violation occurred within three years after a first such violation.

12. Upon receiving a record of a person's disqualifying conviction, administrative decision, suspension, or revocation, the department shall, by rule, without preliminary hearing and upon thirty days' advance notice, disqualify the person from operating a commercial motor vehicle upon a highway.

13. a. A person is disqualified from operating a commercial motor vehicle if the person either refuses to submit to chemical testing required under [chapter 321J](#) or submits to chemical testing and the results show an alcohol concentration as defined in [section 321J.1](#) of 0.04 or more. The department, upon receipt of the peace officer's certification, subject to

penalty for perjury, that the peace officer had reasonable grounds to believe the person to have been operating a commercial motor vehicle with an alcohol concentration of 0.04 or more and that the person refused to submit to the chemical testing or submitted to chemical testing and the results show an alcohol concentration as defined in [section 321J.1](#) of 0.04 or more, shall, without preliminary hearing and upon thirty days' advance notice, disqualify the person from operating a commercial motor vehicle upon a highway.

*b.* The effective date of disqualification shall be thirty days after notification. Immediate notice of disqualification may be served on a person operating a commercial motor vehicle who refused to submit to a test or whose test results indicate an alcohol concentration of 0.04 or more by the peace officer administering the chemical test or, notwithstanding [chapter 17A](#), the department may notify the person by first class mail. If immediate notice is served, the peace officer shall take the commercial driver's license or commercial learner's permit of the driver, if issued within the state, and issue a temporary commercial driver's license or commercial learner's permit effective for only thirty days. The peace officer shall immediately send the person's commercial driver's license or commercial learner's permit to the department in addition to the officer's certification required by [this subsection](#).

14. Upon notice, the disqualified person shall surrender the person's commercial driver's license or commercial learner's permit to the department and the department may issue a driver's license valid only to operate a noncommercial motor vehicle upon payment of the fee for a replacement driver's license under [section 321.195](#). The department shall notify the commercial driver's license information system of the disqualification if required to do so under [section 321.204](#).

15. Notwithstanding the Iowa administrative procedure Act, [chapter 17A](#), the filing of a petition for judicial review shall stay the disqualification pending the determination by the district court.

16. The department may reinstate a qualified person's privilege to operate a commercial motor vehicle after a period of disqualification and after payment of required fees.

17. As used in [this section](#), the terms "acts", "actions", and "offenses" mean acts, actions, or offenses which occur on or after July 1, 1990.

[C39, §5014.08; C46, 50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §321.208]

90 Acts, ch 1230, §51; 92 Acts, ch 1175, §24 – 26; 95 Acts, ch 55, §6; 96 Acts, ch 1152, §13; 98 Acts, ch 1073, §9; 99 Acts, ch 96, §33; 2000 Acts, ch 1133, §6; 2001 Acts, ch 32, §44; 2001 Acts, ch 132, §7; 2002 Acts, ch 1063, §29; 2003 Acts, ch 44, §114; 2005 Acts, ch 8, §22 – 25; 2006 Acts, ch 1068, §28; 2008 Acts, ch 1021, §5 – 9; 2009 Acts, ch 130, §9, 10; 2013 Acts, ch 103, §11, 12; 2015 Acts, ch 123, §61 – 66; 2020 Acts, ch 1017, §1, 2; 2020 Acts, ch 1062, §43

Referred to in [§321.204](#), [321.218](#), [321A.17](#), [321J.8](#), [321J.13](#)

Subsection 1, paragraph c amended

Subsection 2, paragraph d amended

NEW subsection 6 and former subsections 6 – 16 renumbered as 7 – 17