

761—607.7(321) Commercial driver's license (CDL).

607.7(1) Classes. The department may issue a commercial driver's license only as a Class A, B or C driver's license. The license class identifies the types of vehicles that may be operated. A commercial driver's license may have endorsements that authorize additional vehicle operations or restrictions that limit vehicle operations.

607.7(2) Validity.

a. A Class A commercial driver's license allows a person to operate a combination of commercial motor vehicles as specified in Iowa Code sections 321.1(11) and 321.189(1)"a"(1). With the required endorsements and subject to the applicable restrictions, a Class A commercial driver's license is valid to operate any vehicle. Before the department administers the skills test for a Class A commercial driver's license to an applicant for the first time, the applicant must comply with the entry-level driver training requirements as provided in Iowa Code section 321.188.

b. A Class B commercial driver's license allows a person to operate a commercial motor vehicle as specified in Iowa Code sections 321.1(11) and 321.189(1)"a"(2). With the required endorsements and subject to the applicable restrictions, a Class B commercial driver's license is valid to operate any vehicle except a truck-tractor semitrailer combination or a vehicle requiring a Class A commercial driver's license. Before the department administers the skills test for a Class B commercial driver's license to an applicant for the first time, the applicant must comply with the entry-level driver training requirements as provided in Iowa Code section 321.188.

c. A Class C commercial driver's license allows a person to operate a commercial motor vehicle as specified in Iowa Code sections 321.1(11) and 321.189(1)"a"(3) if the vehicle is designed to transport 16 or more passengers, including the driver, or is used in the transportation of hazardous materials as defined in 49 CFR Section 383.5 effective October 1, 2024. With the required endorsements and subject to the applicable restrictions, a Class C commercial driver's license is valid to operate any vehicle except a vehicle requiring a Class A or Class B commercial driver's license. Before the department administers the skills test for a Class C commercial driver's license to an applicant for the first time, the applicant must comply with the entry-level driver training requirements as provided in Iowa Code section 321.188 for the applicable endorsement sought (P/Passenger or S/School Bus endorsements). Before the department administers the knowledge test for a Class C commercial driver's license to an applicant for the first time, the applicant must comply with the entry-level driver training requirements provided in Iowa Code section 321.188 for the applicable endorsement sought (H/Hazardous materials endorsement).

d. A commercial driver's license is valid for operating a motorcycle as a commercial motor vehicle only if the license has a motorcycle endorsement and a hazardous material endorsement. A commercial driver's license is valid for operating a motorcycle as a noncommercial motor vehicle only if the license has a motorcycle endorsement.

e. A commercial driver's license valid for eight years will be issued to a qualified applicant who is at least 18 years of age but not yet 78 years of age. However, the expiration date of the license issued shall not exceed the licensee's 80th birthday.

f. A commercial driver's license valid for two years will be issued to a qualified applicant 78 years of age or older. A two-year license may also be issued, at the discretion of the department, to an applicant whose license is restricted due to vision or other physical disabilities.

g. A commercial driver's license is valid for 60 days after the expiration date.

h. A person with a commercial driver's license valid for the vehicle operated is not required to obtain a Class D driver's license to operate the vehicle as a chauffeur.

607.7(3) Age. The minimum age to obtain a commercial driver's license is set out in 49 CFR Part 391, Subpart B, effective October 1, 2024, except that, for a person operating solely intrastate, the driver age qualifications are set out in Iowa Code section 321.449(3).

607.7(4) License extension.

a. As provided in 49 CFR Section 383.153, a person may apply for a 60-day extension of a commercial driver's license if the person:

- (1) Has a valid license,
- (2) Is eligible for further licensing, and

- (3) Is temporarily absent from Iowa or is temporarily incapacitated at the time for renewal.
- b.* License extensions can be requested following the procedure in 761—subrule 605.15(2).
- c.* A 60-day extension will be added to the expiration date on the license. When the person appears to renew the license, the expiration date of the renewed license will be computed from the expiration date of the original license, notwithstanding the extension.
- d.* Only one 60-day extension is allowed.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 321.1(8), 321.177, 321.182, 321.188, 321.189, 321.196, and 321.449.

[ARC 9579C, IAB 10/1/25, effective 11/5/25]