

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION****Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration**

[Docket No. FMCSA–2020–0160]

**Agency Information Collection Activities; Renewal of a Currently-Approved Information Collection: Licensing Applications for Motor Carrier Operating Authority****AGENCY:** Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), DOT.**ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, FMCSA announces its plan to submit the information collection request (ICR) described below to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for its review and approval and invites public comment. FMCSA requests approval to renew the ICR titled “Licensing Applications for Motor Carrier Operating Authority,” OMB Control No. 2126–0016. This ICR applies to: (1) Existing registrants (*i.e.*, entities that already have a USDOT number and/or operating authority) that are subject to FMCSA’s licensing, registration, and certification regulations that wish to apply for additional authorities; and (2) Mexico-domiciled carriers that wish to operate beyond the U.S. municipalities on the U.S.-Mexico border and their commercial zones. Existing registrants seeking additional authorities must use forms OP–1, OP–1(P), OP–1(FF), and OP–1(NNA), to apply for such authority. Mexico-domiciled carriers seeking the authority described above must apply for such authority using Form OP–1(MX).

**DATES:** We must receive your comments on or before October 27, 2020.**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments identified by Federal Docket Management System (FDMS) Docket Number FMCSA–2020–0160 using any of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.

- *Fax:* 1–202–493–2251.

- *Mail:* Docket Operations; U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, West Building, Ground Floor, Room W12–140, Washington, DC 20590–0001.

- *Hand Delivery or Courier:* U.S. Department of Transportation, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, West Building, Ground Floor, Room W12–140, Washington, DC, 20590–0001 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. e.t., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

*Instructions:* All submissions must include the Agency name and docket number. For detailed instructions on submitting comments, see the Public Participation heading below. Note that all comments received will be posted without change to <http://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal information provided. Please see the Privacy Act heading below.

*Docket:* For access to the docket to read background documents or comments received, go to <http://www.regulations.gov>, and follow the online instructions for accessing the dockets, or go to the street address listed above.

*Privacy Act:* In accordance with 5 U.S.C. 553(c), DOT solicits comments from the public to better inform its rulemaking process. DOT posts these comments, without edit, including any personal information the commenter provides, to [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov), as described in the system of records notice (DOT/ALL–14 FDMS), which can be reviewed at [www.dot.gov/privacy](http://www.dot.gov/privacy).

*Public Participation:* The Federal eRulemaking Portal is available 24 hours each day, 365 days each year. You can obtain electronic submission and retrieval help and guidelines under the “help” section of the Federal eRulemaking Portal website. If you want us to notify you that we received your comments, please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope or postcard, or print the acknowledgement page that appears after submitting comments online. Comments received after the comment closing date will be included in the docket and will be considered to the extent practicable.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Jeff Secrist, Office of Registration and Safety Information, Chief, East and South Division, Department of Transportation, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, West Building 6th Floor, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590. Telephone: 202–385–2367; email: [jeff.secrist@dot.gov](mailto:jeff.secrist@dot.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:****Background**

FMCSA registers for-hire motor carriers of regulated commodities and of passengers, under 49 U.S.C. 13902(a); surface freight forwarders, under 49 U.S.C. 13903; property brokers, under 49 U.S.C. 13904; and certain Mexico-domiciled motor carriers, under 49 U.S.C. 13902(c). These motor carriers may conduct transportation services in the United States only if they are registered with FMCSA. Each registration is effective from the date

specified and remains in effect for such period as the Secretary of Transportation (Secretary) determines by regulations.

Prior to 2015, all entities seeking authority (both first-time applicants and registered entities seeking additional authorities) were required to apply for such authority using the OP–1 series of forms, including OP–1, OP–1(P), OP–1(FF), OP–1(NNA), and OP–1(MX) (for Mexico-domiciled carriers only).

The Final Rule titled “Unified Registration System,” (78 FR 52608) dated August 23, 2013, implemented statutory provisions for an online registration system for entities that are subject to FMCSA’s licensing, registration, and certification regulations. The Unified Registration System (URS) streamlines the registration process and serves as a clearinghouse and repository of information on motor carriers, brokers, freight forwarders, intermodal equipment providers, hazardous materials safety permit applicants, and cargo tank facilities required to register with FMCSA. When developing URS, FMCSA planned that the OP–1 series of forms—except for OP–1(MX)—would ultimately be folded into one overarching electronic application (MCSA–1), which would be used by all motor carriers seeking authority.

FMCSA began a phased rollout of URS in 2015. The first phase, which went into effect on December 12, 2015, impacts only first-time applicants seeking an FMCSA-issued registration. FMCSA had planned subsequent rollout phases for existing registrants; however, there have been substantial delays, and subsequent phases have not been rolled out to date.

On January 17, 2017, FMCSA issued a Final Rule titled “Unified Registration System; Suspension of Effectiveness,” which indefinitely suspended URS effectiveness dates for existing registrants only (82 FR 5292). Pursuant to this Final Rule, FMCSA is still accepting forms OP–1, OP–1(P), OP–1(FF), and OP–1(NNA) for existing registrants wishing to apply for additional authorities. Separately, FMCSA requires Form OP–1(MX) for new and existing Mexico-domiciled motor carriers that wish to operate beyond the U.S. municipalities on the U.S.-Mexico border and their commercial zones. Information collected through the URS system, utilizing the MCSA–1, does not accept registration form OP–1(MX) and continue to remain a paper form outside the URS.

Forms in the OP–1 series request information to identify the applicant,

the nature and scope of its proposed operations, a narrative description of the applicant's safety policies and procedures, and information regarding the drivers and vehicles it plans to use in U.S. operations. The OP-1 series also requests information on the applicant's familiarity with relevant safety requirements, the applicant's willingness to comply with those requirements during its operations, and the applicant's willingness to meet any specific statutory and regulatory requirements applicable to its proposed operations. Information collected through these forms aids FMCSA in determining the type of operation a company may run, the cargo it may carry, and the resulting level of insurance coverage the applicant will be required to obtain and maintain to continue its operating authority.

#### Changes From Previous Estimates

The previously approved version of this ICR estimated the average annual burden to be 147,124 annual burden hours, with 73,538 total annual respondents. For this renewal the estimated average annual burden is 162,476, with 81,213 total average annual respondents. The annual burden hourly increase of 15,352 is due to the increase in average annual respondents. This increase is in line with a growing U.S. economy and U.S. population for calendar years 2017, 2018 and 2019.

As discussed above, FMCSA has experienced delays in rolling out Phase II of URS (which applies to existing registrants) and has indefinitely suspended the effective date of URS requirements for such entities. Until further notice, existing registrants must still use the OP-1 series of forms to apply for additional authorities. FMCSA is assuming that this will be the case for the 3-year period covered by this ICR.

As described above, only first-time applicants seeking an FMCSA-issued registration must apply via URS. Under URS, all forms in the OP-1 series, except OP-1(MX), are folded into Form MCSA-1. Information collection activities associated with MCSA-1 are covered under a different ICR, titled "FMCSA Registration/Updates," OMB Control Number 2126-0051.

*Title:* Licensing Applications for Motor Carrier Operating Authority.

*OMB Control Number:* 2126-0016.

*Type of Request:* Renewal of a currently approved collection.

*Respondents:* Carrier compliance officer or equivalent from motor carriers, motor passenger carriers, freight forwarders, brokers, and certain Mexico-domiciled motor carriers subject

to FMCSA's licensing, registration and certification regulations.

*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 81,213.

*Estimated Time per Response:* 2 hours for forms OP-1, OP-1(P), and OP-1(FF); 4 hours for forms OP-1(MX) and OP-1(NNA).

*Expiration Date:* March 31, 2021.

*Frequency of Response:* Other (as needed).

*Estimated Total Annual Burden:* 162,476 hours.

*Public Comments Invited:* You are asked to comment on any aspect of this information collection, including: (1) Whether the proposed collection is necessary for the performance of FMCSA's functions; (2) the accuracy of the estimated burden; (3) ways for FMCSA to enhance the quality, usefulness, and clarity of the collected information; and (4) ways that the burden could be minimized without reducing the quality of the collected information. The Agency will summarize or include your comments in the request for OMB's clearance of this information collection.

Issued under the authority of 49 CFR 1.87.

**Kenneth Riddle,**

*Acting Associate Administrator, Office of Research and Registration.*

[FR Doc. 2020-18934 Filed 8-27-20; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4910-EX-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

### Maritime Administration

#### Merchant Marine Academy Board of Visitors; Public Meeting

**AGENCY:** Maritime Administration, Transportation (DOT).

**ACTION:** Notice of public meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Department of Transportation, Maritime Administration announces a meeting of the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy Board of Visitors (BOV).

**DATES:** The meeting will be held on September 16, 2020, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. EDT.

Requests to attend the meeting must be received by September 14, 2020.

Requests to submit written materials to be reviewed during the meeting must be received no later than September 14, 2020.

Requests for accommodations to a disability must be received by September 11, 2020.

USMMA will post virtual meeting access details no later than September 14, 2020, via its website and Social Media channels.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held through a virtual forum. General information about the committee, is available on the USMMA BOV internet website at <https://www.usmma.edu/about/leadership/board-visitors>. Meeting access information will also be available at <https://www.usmma.edu/about/leadership/board-visitors> on the date specified in the **DATES** section.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** The BOV's Designated Federal Officer and Point of Contact, George Rhyndance, 516-726-6048 or [rhyndanceg@usmma.edu](mailto:rhyndanceg@usmma.edu). Any committee related request should be sent to the person listed in this section.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### I. Background

The USMMA BOV is a Federal Advisory Committee originally established as a Congressional Board by Section 51312 of Title 46, United States Code "to provide independent advice and recommendations on matters relating to the United States Merchant Marine Academy." The Board was chartered under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) on October 25, 2019.

##### II. Agenda

At the meeting, the agenda will cover the following topics:

1. Update the Board on USMMA actions during the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) public health emergency, specifically:
  - (a) The return, licensing, and graduation of the Class of 2020
  - (b) The return and preparation for Sea Year of the B-Split members of the Class of 2023
  - (c) The return of the Indoctrination cadre and their preparation for Indoctrination training
  - (d) The reception and training of the Class of 2024
  - (e) The return of the remainder of the Regiment of Midshipmen
2. Provide an update on the Real Property Master Plan
3. Provide an update on the status of the NAPA study
4. Discuss minority recruiting efforts for the Class of 2025

The agenda is about 2 hours and 15 minutes in length, with the remaining portion of the third hour held for additional discussion and questions.

##### III. Public Participation

This meeting is open to the public and will be held through a virtual forum. Members of the public who wish to attend in person must RSVP to the person listed in the **FOR FURTHER**