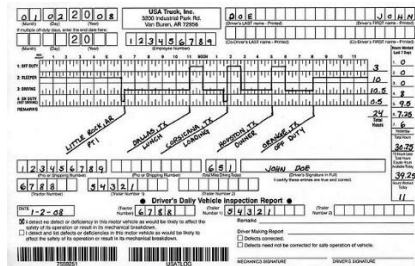


FMCSA “Emergency Declaration”

WASHINGTON — The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) has extended its [emergency declaration related to the COVID-19 pandemic](#) and the relief help provided by the trucking industry.

The declaration, which is now set to expire on **Aug. 31**, provides regulatory relief for truckers providing direct assistance with the delivery of emergency supplies.



“Direct assistance,” according to the FMCSA, means transportation and other relief services provided by a motor carrier or its driver(s) incident to the immediate restoration of essential services (such as medical care) or essential supplies related to COVID-19 during the emergency.”

Building materials for those displaced by COVID-19 are no longer considered qualifying loads, according to the FMCSA; however, heating oil has been added to the list of exempted loads.

Other loads qualifying for the federal relief include:

- Livestock and livestock feed;
- Medical supplies and equipment related to the testing, diagnosis and treatment of COVID-19;
- Vaccines, constituent products, and medical supplies and equipment, including ancillary supplies/kits for the administration of vaccines, related to the prevention of COVID-19;
- Supplies and equipment necessary for community safety, sanitation, and prevention of community transmission of COVID-19, such as masks, gloves, hand sanitizer, soap and disinfectants;
- **Food, paper products and other groceries for emergency restocking of distribution centers or stores; and**
- **Gasoline, diesel, jet fuel, ethyl alcohol and heating fuel, including propane, natural gas and heating oil.**

The most recent version of the emergency declaration provides an exemption only from the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations’ 395.3, which sets a maximum driving time for property-carrying vehicles.

If you have any questions for our transportation safety consultants, please feel free to [contact us](#) at (281) 382-8400 or email us at steve@integritysafety.net.