

Vehicle & Motor Carrier Services' First Quarter 2015 Newsletter

Commercial vehicle titles
Fuel and registration trip permits
International Fuel Tax Agreement (IFTA)

Travel authority
Permits for over dimensional loads
International Registration Plan (IRP)

April 2015



**IFTA First quarter
2015 tax return deadline
Thursday, April 30**

Effective March 1, 2015 Iowa increased the per gallon tax by \$0.10 for all fuel types. This will result in Iowa having a split rate for the 1st quarter of 2015 beginning March 1, 2015. See changes on the back of your IFTA Tax Return Notice, or visit our website at www.iowadot.gov/mvd/omcs.

Online processing is required for all IFTA quarterly tax returns, renewals, requests for more decals, and IRP renewals and supplements.

Supported Internet browsers are Microsoft® Internet Explorer® (IE) or Mozilla® Firefox® – newer IE versions may need to run in the compatibility mode. The Iowa Department of Transportation's IFTA/IRP online application does not work with Google Chrome™. In addition, **pop-up windows are in the IFTA/IRP online application and must be allowed on this website.**

Customers will use the same Account ID (client ID) and password for both their IRP renewal and supplements online. A password can be obtained in two ways. Do not wait until the last minute to request to be set up with a password.

1. Emailing omcs@dot.iowa.gov. Provide your Client ID number, an email address where a temporary password can be emailed, and your telephone number.
2. Calling 515-237-3268. (There is a heavy volume of calls due to the new changes.)

To begin: 1) Go to www.iowadot.gov/iftairp; 2) the next window is the "hub" of the online application where you will sign in to the application and find the "IFTA and IRP online reference guides."

Payments should be made in a timely manner to avoid penalty and interest. Acceptable methods of payment are:

- Dwolla (online payment option).
- Escrow account (online payment option).
- Check, money order, or cashier check.
- *Credit card or electronic check number (\$4 or 4 percent fee added, whichever is greater).
- *T-check, Comcheck, or electronic funds source (EFS) check number.

*Call 515-237-3268 to use these options.

Dwolla has implemented flexible account limits on your Dwolla Account. What does this mean for you?

- Your Dwolla account can receive/send any amount.
- There are no transaction limits.
- Payments that are more than \$10 cost \$0.25 per transaction; payments that are \$10 and less are free.

The IRP community implemented the Full Reciprocity Plan (FRP) effective Jan. 1, 2015. The FRP is more efficient and flexible for member jurisdictions and registrants by granting full reciprocity for all apportioned vehicles registered under the IRP in all member jurisdictions.

How does FRP work?

- All jurisdictions will be displayed on the cab card.
- Now, you do not have to select jurisdictions in which you intend to operate; add jurisdiction supplements; or have trip permits.

- Registration fees are based on your fleet's actual distance for the reporting period; you do not have to estimate distance.
- Only new carriers without an IRP history pays fees based on the Iowa average per-vehicle distance chart for the initial application.
- Carriers with multiple fleets may want to consider combining all fleets into one.
- Carriers are registered under the FRP rules when they renew their IRP during calendar year 2015.
- Carriers may want to begin reviewing their weight groups for possible duplicates or to combine them to eliminate the number of weight groups in your fleet.
- Weights under FRP will default to the "max gross weight" of that weight group unless that weight is over the maximum weight for a certain jurisdiction, then it will default to that jurisdiction's maximum weight.
- If there is a 10 percent variance in weight between jurisdictions, an explanation will be required.
- Weights may not be dropped to empty weight due to not operating in certain jurisdictions.

To view a short FRP presentation, go to the Office of Vehicle & Motor Carrier Services' website at: www.iowadot.gov/mvd/omcs. To access more resources, go to: www.irponline.org/?page=FRPBallot.

Unified Registration System (URS): Federal rule making has created the URS system to be implemented in stages through April 25, 2016. The purpose of the URS is to replace certain existing federal systems with a single, online, federal system. Below are some of the changes that have gone into effect and will go into effect at a later date.

- If your USDOT number has not been updated according to the FMCSA biennial schedule, you may be subject to a citation at roadside.
- **Effective Oct. 23, 2015:** A new MCSA-1 form will replace the current MCS-150 form. Biennial updates **must be submitted online**. Updates are required within 30 days of change. New USDOT numbers will cost \$300 (USDOT numbers for **intrastate** carriers will remain at no charge). Exempt for-hire and private hazmat carriers must file proof of insurance, in addition to all for-hire carriers, brokers, and freight forwarders.
- **Effective April 25, 2016:** Private and exempt for-hire carriers must file a process agent designation, (a process agent is an entity that is identified for the purpose of serving legal papers. It is a legal presence in each state the carrier operates).

Office of Vehicle & Motor Carrier Services

Mailing address:

P.O. Box 10382, Des Moines, Iowa 50306-0382

Physical address:

6310 SE Convenience Blvd., Ankeny, Iowa 50021
(exit 89 on Interstate 35)

Counter hours: 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

New registrant customers must arrive by 2 p.m.

Email: omcs@dot.iowa.gov

Website: <http://www.iowadot.gov/iftairp>

Commercial vehicle titles	515-237-3110 515-237-3056 Fax
Fuel and registration trip permits, and oversize/overweight permits	515-237-3264 515-237-3257 Fax
IFTA fuel tax, IRP registration, UCR, and travel authority	515-237-3268 515-237-3225 Fax
Motor carrier audits	515-239-1030 515-239-1874 Fax

Biennial Update

USDOT Compliance Information

How Do I File My Biennial Update?

Motor carriers, hazardous material safety permit applicants/holders, and intermodal equipment providers regulated by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) must update their registration information every two years (biennial updates). Failure to comply with the biennial update requirements will result in penalties and USDOT number deactivation.

To File Your Biennial Update:

- Go to www.fmcsa.dot.gov/BiennialUpdate, sign in using the PIN provided in your warning notice from FMCSA, and complete the biennial update process.
- You may also complete the biennial update process by mail or by fax. Go to www.fmcsa.dot.gov/BiennialUpdate and request or download the MC-150 form. Complete the form and follow the provided instructions for mailing or faxing it to FMCSA.



For more information visit www.fmcsa.dot.gov/BiennialUpdate or call (800) 832-5660



USDOT COMPLIANCE INFORMATION

Why was I issued this citation/warning?

You have been issued a citation or warning because your company is not in compliance with the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's (FMCSA) biennial registration update requirements. Your company must update its registration information with FMCSA every two years. Failure to do so will result in the assessment of civil penalties and deactivation of your USDOT number.

Your Next Steps

To Avoid Additional Penalties:

- Go to www.fmcsa.dot.gov/BiennialUpdate, sign in using your PIN, and complete the biennial update process.
- If your business has an inactive USDOT number for reasons other than new entrant issues, select "biennial update or changes" in the "reason for filing" section. If your USDOT number has been revoked because of a new entrant issue, select "reapplication (after revocation of new entrant)."
- You may also register by mail or by fax. Go to www.fmcsa.dot.gov/BiennialUpdate and request or download the MC-150 form. Complete the form and follow the provided instructions for mailing or faxing to FMCSA.



For more information visit www.fmcsa.dot.gov/BiennialUpdate or call (800) 832-5660



Filing Schedule

If your USDOT number ends in:	You must file by the last day of:
1	January
2	February
3	March
4	April
5	May
6	June
7	July
8	August
9	September
0	October

If the next-to-last digit of your USDOT number is odd, file your update every odd-numbered calendar year.

If the next-to-last digit of your USDOT number is even, file your update every even-numbered calendar year.