

§ 384.307 FMCSA program reviews of State compliance.

(a) *FMCSA Program Reviews.* Each State's CDL program will be subject to review to determine whether or not the State meets the general requirement for substantial compliance in § 384.301. The State must cooperate with the review and provide any information requested by the FMCSA.

(b) *Preliminary FMCSA determination and State response.* If, after review, a preliminary determination is made either that the State has not submitted the required annual self-certification or that the State does not meet one or more of the minimum standards for substantial compliance under subpart B of this part, the State will be informed accordingly.

(c) *Reply.* The State will have up to 30 calendar days to respond to the preliminary determination. The State's reply must explain what corrective action it either has implemented or intends to implement to correct the deficiencies cited in the notice or, alternatively, why the FMCSA preliminary determination is incorrect. The State must provide documentation of corrective action as required by the agency. Corrective action must be adequate to correct the deficiencies noted in the program review and be implemented on a schedule mutually agreed upon by the agency and the State. Upon request by the State, an informal conference will be provided during this time.

(d) *Final FMCSA determination.* If, after reviewing a timely response by the State to the preliminary determination, a final determination is made that the State is not in compliance with the affected standard, the State will be notified of the final determination. In making its final determination, the FMCSA will take into consideration the corrective action either implemented or planned to be implemented in accordance with the mutually agreed upon schedule.

(e) *State's right to judicial review.* Any State aggrieved by an adverse decision under this section may seek judicial review under 5 U.S.C. Chapter 7.

[67 FR 49763, July 31, 2002]

§ 384.309 Results of compliance determination.

(a) A State shall be determined not substantially in compliance with 49 U.S.C. 31311(a) for any fiscal year in which it:

(1) Fails to submit the certification as prescribed in this subpart; or

(2) Does not meet one or more of the standards of subpart B of this part, as established in a final determination by the FMCSA under § 384.307(c).

(b) A State shall be in substantial compliance with 49 U.S.C. 31311(a) for any fiscal year in which neither of the eventualities in paragraph (a) of this section occurs.

[62 FR 37152, July 11, 1997]

Subpart D—Consequences of State Noncompliance**§ 384.401 Withholding of funds based on noncompliance.**

(a) *Following the first year of noncompliance.* A State is subject to both of the following sanctions:

(1) An amount equal to five percent of the Federal-aid highway funds required to be apportioned to any State under each of sections 104(b)(1), (b)(3), and (b)(4) of title 23, U.S.C., shall be withheld on the first day of the fiscal year following such State's first year of noncompliance under this part.

(2) The Motor Carrier Safety Assistance Program (MCSAP) grant funds authorized under section 103(b)(1) of the Motor Carrier Safety Improvement Act of 1999 (Public Law 106-159, 113 Stat. 1754) shall be withheld from a State on the first day of the fiscal year following the fiscal year in which the FMCSA determined that the State was not in substantial compliance with subpart B of this part.

(b) *Following second and subsequent year(s) of noncompliance.* A State is subject to both of the following sanctions:

(1) An amount equal to ten percent of the Federal-aid funds required to be apportioned to any State under each of sections 104(b)(1), (b)(3), and (b)(4) of title 23, U.S.C., shall be withheld on the first day of the fiscal year following such State's second or subsequent year of noncompliance under this part.

§ 384.403

(2) The Motor Carrier Safety Assistance Program (MCSAP) grant funds authorized under section 103(b)(1) of the Motor Carrier Safety Improvement Act of 1999 (Public Law 106-159, 113 Stat. 1753) shall be withheld from a State on the first day of the fiscal year following the fiscal year in which the FMCSA determined that the State had not returned to substantial compliance with subpart B of this part.

[67 FR 49763, July 31, 2002]

§ 384.403 Availability of funds withheld for noncompliance.

(a) Federal-aid highway funds withheld from a State under § 384.401(a)(1) or (b)(1) shall not thereafter be available for apportionment to the State.

(b) MCSAP funds withheld from a State under § 384.401(a)(2) or (b)(2) remain available until June 30 of the fiscal year in which they were withheld. If before June 30 the State submits a document signed by the Governor or his or her delegate certifying, and the FMCSA determines, that the State is now in substantial compliance with the standards of subpart B of this part, the withheld funds shall be restored to the State. After June 30, unrestored funds shall lapse and be allocated in accordance with § 350.313 of this subchapter to all States currently in substantial compliance with subpart B of this part.

[67 FR 49763, July 31, 2002]

§ 384.405 Decertification of State CDL program.

(a) *Prohibition on CDL licensing activities.* The Administrator may prohibit a State found to be in substantial noncompliance from performing any of the following four licensing transactions:

(1) Issuance of initial CDLs.

(2) Renewal of CDLs.

(3) Transfer of out-of-State CDLs to the State.

(4) Upgrade of CDLs.

(b) *Conditions considered in making decertification determination.* The Administrator will consider, but is not limited to, the following five conditions in determining whether the CDL program of a State in substantial noncompliance should be decertified:

(1) The State computer system does not check the Commercial Driver's Li-

49 CFR Ch. III (10-1-04 Edition)

cence Information System (CDLIS) and/or National Driver Register (NDR) as required by § 383.73 of this subchapter when processing CDL applicants, drivers transferring a CDL issued by another State, CDL renewals and/or upgrades.

(2) The State does not disqualify drivers convicted of disqualifying offenses in commercial motor vehicles.

(3) The State does not transmit convictions for out of State drivers to the State where the driver is licensed.

(4) The State does not properly administer knowledge and/or skills tests to CDL applicants or drivers.

(5) The State fails to submit a corrective action plan for a substantial compliance deficiency or fails to implement a corrective action plan within the agreed upon time frame.

(c) *Standard for considering deficiencies.* The deficiencies described in paragraph (b) of this section must affect a substantial number of either CDL applicants or drivers.

(d) *Decertification: preliminary determination.* If the Administrator finds that a State is in substantial noncompliance with subpart B of this part, as indicated by the factors specified in § 384.405(b), among other things, the FMCSA will inform the State that it has made a preliminary determination of noncompliance and that the State's CDL program may therefore be decertified. Any response from the State, including factual or legal arguments or a plan to correct the noncompliance, must be submitted within 30 calendar days after receipt of the preliminary determination.

(e) *Decertification: final determination.* If, after considering all material submitted by the State in response to the FMCSA preliminary determination, the Administrator decides that substantial noncompliance exists which warrants decertification of the CDL program, he or she will issue a decertification order prohibiting the State from issuing CDLs until such time as the Administrator determines that the condition(s) causing the decertification has (have) been corrected.

(f) *Recertification of a State.* The Governor of the decertified State or his or her designated representative must