

9 ELD Requirements You Didn't Know About

How to look beyond the FMCSA checklist to choose the solution that delivers powerful tools for a smooth ELD transition



If you're in the market for an ELD provider, you probably already have checked out the list of registered ELDs available on the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration website. However, you'll note the list is self-certified so buyers should verify their ELD provider meets all the ELD requirements. The FMCSA has released a basic checklist of ELD required functions, but a word to the wise: There are pieces of the puzzle that are not as well-promoted as those on that FMCSA checklist. For instance, did you know your ELD must have two separate visual indicators: one for malfunctions and another for data diagnostics, and they must be visible to the driver while driving? Or that there must be a visual warning that a driver is not logged into the ELD other than on a screen?



Look beyond the official list

Since you are responsible for making sure your ELD is capable of all required functions, refer to the list so you can make the most fully informed decision possible.

1

Exempt driver option

An ELD system must provide the motor carrier the ability to configure an “Exempt Driver” and the device must also prompt annotation of the record to provide an explanation for the configuration of the exemption (4.3.3.1.2).

2

Team drivers

An ELD must provide for, and require, current authentication for team drivers (4.1.4 (b)).

3

Special driving options (*yard move & personal use*)

An ELD must provide the means for a driver to indicate the beginning and end of a period when the driver may use the commercial motor vehicle for authorized personal use or for performing yard moves (4.3.2.2.2).

4

Display visible outside of the cab

An ELD must be designed so that its display may be reasonably viewed by an authorized safety official without entering the CMV. The display may be untethered from its mount or connected in a manner that would allow it to be passed outside of the vehicle (4.8.1.2 (b)).

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5

Certification reminder on login/logout

The ELD must indicate required driver action when any of the last 7 (other than the current 24-hour period) require driver certification or re-certification. The ELD must prompt the driver to take the necessary action during the login and logout process (4.3.2.3 (d)).

6

Visual indicator

At least two different visual indicators - for malfunctions and data diagnostics - will be required. They must be visible to the driver when seated in the normal driving position. If a driver fails to log on, the ELD must provide a warning, even if the screen is turned off or absent, as soon as the vehicle is in motion, reminding the driver to stop and log in to the ELD (4.1.5, 4.6.2.1 & 4.6.3.1).

7

Unidentified driving records

If a driver does not log on to the ELD, the device must record accumulated driving. When no user has been logged in the ELD must not allow entry of any information other than a response to the login prompt (4.1.5).

8

Automatic duty status changes

Speeds above 5 mph immediately change the duty status to Driving (when not in yard move or personal use). After five minutes of speed at 0 mph, the ELD must ask the driver if they want to stay in "Driving" status, or change to "On Duty, Not Driving" if there is no response after one additional minute (4.4.1.1/2 & 4.3.1.2).

9

Restriction on shortening driving time

An ELD must not allow automatically recorded driving time to be shortened (4.3.2.8.2 (b)).

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Problem solving solution

Finding an innovative and intuitive system that enables compliance with the rules also opens a world of possibilities. Select a solution that allows you to go beyond the ELD requirements and take advantage of the powerful tools now at your disposal.

For example, you'll want to choose an easy-to-use ELD that offers interactive training right on the device. This will simplify training for your drivers, making the transition process smoother and faster.

Also, look for a solution that gives you everything you need - not just for right now, but for the future. A comprehensive device that provides all the hours of service rules you could ever use will serve you well down the road.



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Other examples beyond ELD requirements include Dynamic HOS Rule Updating which allow your ELD to automatically update HOS rules based upon location. Or the ability to import ELD data files from other ELD systems when you hire new drivers.

Look for a device with an Enforcement View, which allows your drivers to lock tablets, ensuring enforcement officers are unable to make edits to ELD data, and are only able to view what is required by law. This allows you to protect and secure your data.

Finally, you'll want a device that allows full log access available through a browser, where you can view, edit, certify and export logs, delivering time savings and convenience.

Analyzing your own needs and choosing the right ELD will offer problem-solving features that will not only deliver solutions right now, but for the long term.

**Need help selecting the right ELD?
Let's talk about your company's needs.**

Request a Demo at: ELD@PedigreeTechnologies.com

