

# Department of Transportation (DOT) Q&A

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## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### **Q. What happens if I don't comply?**

**A.** You may be subject to penalties and fees by the Department of Transportation.

### **Q. When did drug & alcohol testing become a law?**

**A.** On October 28, 1991, President Bush signed the Omnibus Transportation Employee Testing Act, which became effective in 1996.

### **Q. Where do I start?**

**A.** If you are an owner-operator, you are required to join a consortium. If you started a business during the past 365 days, you should obtain a per-employment test. Make sure your name is placed in the random CDL/DOT pool. When you are contacted by the consortium to submit a test, you should immediately proceed to the collection site. Failure to submit a test once notified is considered a refusal and refusals are considered a positive test result.

### **Q. What happens if there is a positive test results for drugs and/or alcohol?**

**A.** There are regulations that require a specific procedure to take place for the company and/or driver. The driver must be removed from safety-sensitive functions, which includes driving. The driver is required to obtain an evaluation by a Substance Abuse Professional (SAP) and submit to random follow-up testing.

### **Q. I own my own truck. Does this apply to me?**

**A.** Yes. The law applies to everyone who is required to have a CDL to drive a particular vehicle, even if you only drive it once. If you are an owner-operator, you are required to join a consortium to meet the testing requirements.

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