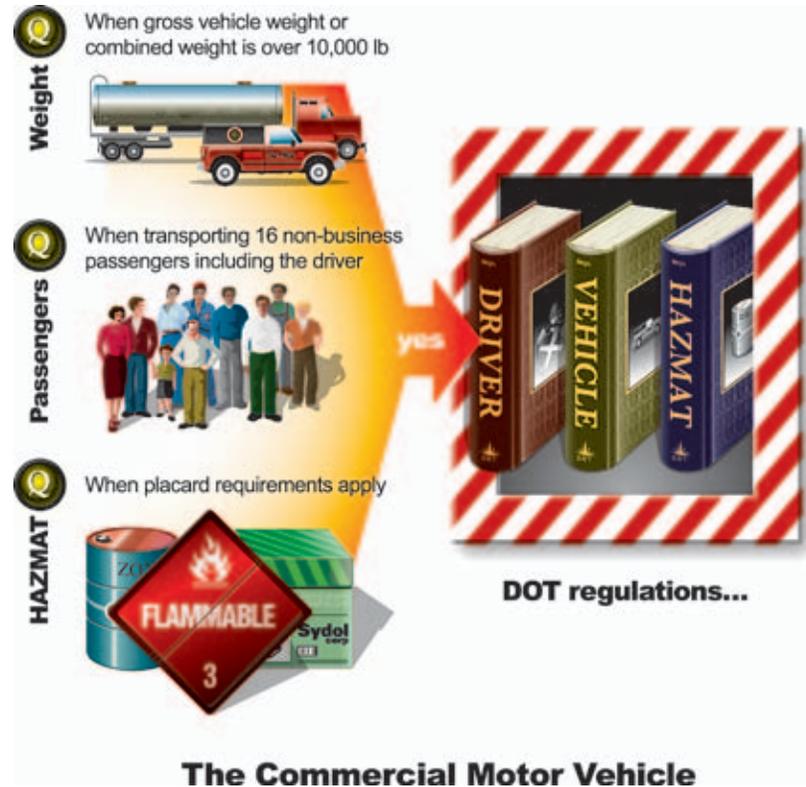


## Do USDOT Regulations Apply to You?

The federal DOT regulations cover drivers and company's who meet the following criteria when driving across state lines.



### Indiana's Adoption of Federal DOT Regulations

Indiana adopted the FMCSA regulations and the HAZMAT regulations (Indiana Code 8-2.1-24-18), making the federal law a part of state law. Intrastate carriers (those that transport only within Indiana) are subject to the same requirements as carriers involved in interstate transportation (those that transport across state lines).

However, the 2010 Indiana General Assembly amended who in Indiana were subject to DOT regulations. The General Assembly passed and the Governor signed the following into law in 2010.

Motor vehicles operating exclusively in intrastate commerce that have a gross vehicle weight, gross vehicle weight rating, gross combination weight,

or gross combination weight rating equal to or less than twenty-six thousand (26,000) pounds. However, the motor vehicle may not be:

- used to provide for-hire transport;
- designed or used to transport sixteen (16) or more passengers, including the driver; or
- used to transport hazardous materials in amounts requiring a placard.

The important part of this exemption is that the company must be an intrastate carrier only. Going across state lines means the company will comply with all DOT regulations. Continue reading if you cannot meet the requirements of this legislation to see what Indiana and the Federal Department of Transportation requires.

## *Defining A Commercial Motor Vehicle*

The U.S. Department of Transportation regulates commercial motor vehicles as classified by the manufacturer's Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR), the type of materials transported, or the manufactured design limits for the number of passengers transported.

A commercial motor vehicle is defined in FMCSA regulations as "any self-propelled or towed vehicle used on public highways to transport passengers or property in commerce" within the following weight, passenger, and cargo parameters:

- **Weight:** when the vehicle has a manufacturer's GVWR or a gross weight over 10,000 pounds; or when the Combined Gross Combination Weight Rating (CGCWR) or the gross weight of the power unit plus the trailer and its load is more than 10,000 pounds.
- **Passengers:** when the vehicle is designed or used to transport 16 or more passengers (including the driver) for non-business movement, or eight or more passengers (including the driver) when transporting for-hire.
- **Cargo:** when a vehicle transports hazardous materials in quantities requiring the display of placards. Although the potential level of danger increases with the weight of the vehicle, the risk to people and the environment also increases if hazardous materials are transported.