

"The 2026 FMCSA Audit Survival Checklist"

Don't let a missing paper cost you \$5,833. Check these 10 items before the auditor does.

SECTION 1: DRIVER QUALIFICATION (DQ) FILES

(49 CFR Part 391)

- **Driver Application:** Must include employment history for the last 10 years (with gaps explained).
- **MVR (Motor Vehicle Report):** Original report from hire date + Annual reviews for every year employed.
- **Road Test Certificate:** Copy of the valid CDL or a road test certificate signed by a supervisor.
- **Medical Examiner's Certificate:** Valid (not expired) and verified on the National Registry.

SECTION 2: DRUG & ALCOHOL CLEARINGHOUSE

(49 CFR Part 382) This is where most fines happen in 2026.

- **Pre-Employment Query:** Full query run *before* the driver touched the steering wheel.
- **Annual Limited Query:** Must be run once every 365 days for *every* driver.
- **Limited Query Consent Form:**
 - **CRITICAL:** Do you have a signed consent form for the specific year of the audit?
 - *If Digital:* Does it have an IP Timestamp to prove it wasn't backdated?
 - *If Paper:* Is the signature "wet ink" and dated correctly?
- **Policy Receipt:** Signed receipt showing the driver received your company's D&A policy.

SECTION 3: HOURS OF SERVICE (HOS)

(49 CFR Part 395)

- **ELD Records:** 6 months of back-up data (transferable via Web Service).
- **Supporting Documents:** Fuel receipts, Bills of Lading (BOLs), and toll tickets that match the ELD logs.
- **Unassigned Driving:** Do you have a record explaining every mile the truck moved without a driver logged in?

STOP CHASING SIGNATURES. Every item on this list takes time. But **Item #6 (Limited Query Consent)** takes the most time because you have to chase drivers.

Automate it with QuickConsent.

-  Text a link.
-  Driver signs on their phone.
-  We generate the Audit-Proof PDF with IP Tracking.

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