

**Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
Bureau of Transportation & Safety
PO Box 3265
Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265
(717) 787-3834 or FAX (717) 787-5961**

Fact Sheet for Pennsylvania's Regulation of Intrastate Carriers of Property and Household Goods

The Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) issues Certificates of Public Convenience for the transportation of property (general and bulk commodities) and household goods when the for hire carrier is operating between points in Pennsylvania. Intrastate involves the picking-up and dropping-off of shipments where both the origin and destination are in Pennsylvania.

An application must be filed and a certificate must be issued before service may be provided solely within the borders of the Commonwealth.

Property Carriers

Carriers of property, excluding household goods, must file a PUC Form 189 along with a filing fee of \$100. The filing fee must be paid by certified check or money order made payable to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Upon receipt and approval of the application, the Commission will issue a Secretarial letter granting authority to transport property, excluding household goods, between points in Pennsylvania.

Carriers of Household Goods

Carriers of household goods, the services typically provided by moving and storage companies, transport people's possessions upon relocation from one home to another.

To begin providing this type of service, the carrier must file PUC Form 189H along with a filing fee of \$350. The filing fee must be paid by certified check or money order made payable to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

After review and acceptance of the application, it is published in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*, which is a Commonwealth publication, for the purpose of giving notice to the public that the carrier seeks to begin providing service in Pennsylvania.

Any active Pennsylvania certified carrier holding household goods authority in the same area of application may file a protest to the granting of the application. Protests must be filed with the Commission and the applicant within 15 working days of the publication date in the *Pennsylvania Bulletin*. Carriers have the opportunity to resolve protests through negotiations with the objector. If an agreement between the parties cannot be reached, the application would be set for hearing before a PUC administrative law judge.

Insurance

As a PUC carrier, evidence of insurance must be maintained with the Commission to meet our minimum requirements (see page v). The Commission requires all carriers to provide evidence of insurance by the filing of a **Form E** as proof of bodily injury and property damage insurance and a **Form H** as evidence of cargo liability insurance. A carrier's failure to maintain evidence of insurance will result in cancellation of its operating authority. If your insurance company subscribes to NOR (National Online Registries, Inc. at www.mcinfo.org), you can request the insurance company to file the required insurance forms electronically through NOR. The electronically filed insurance forms will reach the Commission more quickly than mailed forms.

Tariffs & Rates

Carriers of property are not required to file a tariff. Carriers of household goods must file a tariff and must seek Commission approval for any change in rates.

Assessments

All carriers are subject to an annual assessment based upon their reported gross operating revenue from Pennsylvania transportation. Carriers subject to the annual assessment are mailed a form each year to complete and return to the Commission by March 31. From the information provided, an assessment is calculated and an invoice is mailed to the carrier. Failure to pay the annual assessment will result in cancellation of the carrier's authority.

Safety

Carriers must comply with the Commission's safety regulations contained in 52 Pa. Code Chapter 37, which adopts the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations at 49 CFR. In addition, carriers must comply with the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation's vehicle equipment requirements.

Marking of Vehicles

As a PUC certificated carrier, you are required to mark your vehicles with the name of the carrier, city, state, and the PUC-A#. The vehicle must be marked on both sides in letters no less than 2 inches high by ½ inch in width. Carriers that are registered with the Unified Carrier Registration Act (UCRA) and display a US DOT# are exempt from this requirement.

Other General Requirements

All carriers have an obligation to inform the Commission in writing of any change of address. This is especially important to the carrier as information concerning insurance and other matters is routinely mailed to the carrier.

Contacting the Commission

All correspondence may be mailed to the Commission at:

Secretary's Bureau
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
PO Box 3265
Harrisburg, PA 17105-3265

Fines and Penalties

The Commission is very serious about its responsibility to the citizens of the Commonwealth that carriers operating under authority granted by the Commission are properly insured and are in compliance with our safety regulations. Carriers under our jurisdiction must be aware that fines and other penalties may be imposed when the Commission determines that violations of our regulations have occurred. Fines range from \$50 to \$1,000 per violation depending on the severity of the violation.

Vehicle Registration, Driver Licensing and Special Permits

The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDot) has jurisdiction over the issuance of vehicle registration plates, commercial driver licenses, hazardous materials transportation permits and oversize/overweight permits. PennDot can be reached at (800) 932-4600.

Important Telephone Numbers for Questions

Our staff welcomes your questions; you may telephone the listed numbers for additional information or assistance:

Application Filing	(717)	787-3834
Insurance Filing	(717)	787-1227
Tariff Filing	(717)	787-3834
Rate Changes	(717)	787-3834
Safety Office	(717)	772-2254
Compliance Office	(717)	787-1168

Minimum Limits of Insurance for Carriers of Property

General Commodities and/or Household goods:

Bodily Injury and Property Damage - \$300,000 per accident per vehicle to cover liability for bodily injury, death or property damage incurred in an accident.

Insurance coverage of motor carriers of property shall meet the requirements of 75 PA CS § 1711 relating to required benefits.

Cargo - \$5,000 for loss or damage to cargo being transported.

Cargo Insurance may be waived if you meet any one of three criteria:

1. All transportation will be provided in dump trucks.
2. All transportation will be limited to farm products, garbage, ashes, rubbish, coal debris, earth, crushed stone, amesite, and similar construction materials.
3. The value of any one load being transported will not be more than \$500 in value.

If applicant meets one of the three criteria listed above, applicant should complete a Cargo Waiver can be obtained from the Commission website, www.puc.state.pa.us, under online forms

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