



Government
of Canada Gouvernement
du Canada



United States
of America

FAST

Commercial Driver Program Information and Application Form

La version française de cette publication est intitulée
*EXPRES – Renseignements et formulaire de demande de
participation pour les chauffeurs du secteur commercial.*

Free And Secure Trade (FAST) Commercial Driver Program is the result of the Smart Border Declaration – 32 Point Action Plan and is a harmonized program involving the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) and the United States Customs and Border Protection (CBP).

What are the benefits?

If you are approved to participate in the FAST Commercial Driver Program, you will receive a card to use at the border that will allow you to:

- use FAST dedicated lanes in Canada and the United States (where available);
- cross the border with accelerated customs and immigration processing; and,
- transport eligible goods for FAST-approved carriers and importers.

Who qualifies?

You may qualify to participate in the program if you are a citizen or permanent resident of the United States or Canada, age 18 or over and possess a valid driver's license. You must be admissible to Canada and the United States under applicable immigration laws. However, you **may not** qualify if you:

- provide false or incomplete information on your application;
- have been convicted of a criminal offence;
- have been found in violation of customs or immigration law; or
- fail to meet other requirements of the FAST Commercial Driver Program.

Both countries must approve your application. If you do not meet the requirements of both countries, your application will be denied.

How do I apply?

Your participation in this program is strictly voluntary. If you complete the attached application form, we will use the information you provided to determine your eligibility. If you meet initial requirements, you will be invited to visit the enrolment centre for final processing. During this stage, we will:

- review the information you provided on your application form to ensure it is accurate and valid;
- review original documents such as proof of citizenship and/or permanent residency, place of residence, work permits, and/or visas;
- take a full set of fingerprints;
- take your photo for your FAST Commercial Driver card;
- explain the terms and conditions of the FAST Commercial Driver Program; and
- notify you, following appropriate background checks, if you have qualified.

Completing the application

Each person who wants to participate in the FAST Commercial Driver Program must fill out a separate application form.

The following information will help you correctly complete your FAST Commercial Driver application. If boxes are completed incorrectly, the application will be rejected and returned to you for corrections.

Ensure that you complete **all** areas of the application form.

Box 1a , First time applicant or Renewal or Replacement:

Check the box that applies.

Box 1c, Preferred language: Indicate English or French. Canadian officials will correspond with you in the language of your choice. United States officials will correspond with you in English.

Section A – Personal Information

Box 3, First name: Print your given name as it appears on your birth certificate.

Box 5, Other names used: If you have legally changed your name (including by marriage), provide your previous name(s) and supporting documents. Also, if you use a variation of your name (e.g., Fred or Freddie instead of Frederick) and if you have identification (e.g., passport, driver’s license) in that name, print that name in the box titled “Nickname”.

Boxes 9 and 10, Citizenship and Residence: Indicate whether you are a citizen of Canada, the United States, or another country. Be sure to indicate all countries of which you are a citizen or national (i.e., you are a dual national). Check the box that corresponds with your country of permanent residence.

Box 11, Proof of citizenship /residency/ immigration status: Acceptable proof of Canadian or United States citizenship includes birth certificate and photo identification, a passport or citizenship certificate or card, a certificate of registration of birth abroad, or a certificate of naturalization. Proof of Canadian or United States permanent resident status includes a record of landing in Canada, a valid Canadian permanent resident card or a valid United States permanent resident card. Please provide copies of any visas you are required to present. Be prepared to provide proof that your citizenship, residency and immigration status are as stated on the application form.

You must send two clear photocopies of proof of citizenship and permanent resident status, along with two photocopies of your valid driver's license with your application form to the FAST Commercial Driver Program processing centre. Each copy should show both the front and the back of your documentation on separate pieces of paper and include your home phone number. If you are photocopying a small document, please enlarge it on the photocopier, but make sure the copy is clear. Failure to do so will result in the application being returned to you. However, if the document indicates that it is a violation to copy it, please note this on your application and bring the original with you to your interview.

You will need to bring all the original documents required for your admission to the United States and Canada to the enrolment office to be verified as part of the interview process.

Section B – Address History for the Last 5 Years

Boxes 12 through 47: Please write the addresses of all of your residences for the last **five continuous** years. If there is not enough space on the application form, attach a separate sheet. There should be no gaps in time between addresses.

Important: After you mail your FAST application, submit any change of address **in writing** to both of the following FAST offices:

In Canada

FAST Commercial Driver Program
4551 Zimmerman Avenue
P.O. Box 66
Niagara Falls ON L2E 6T1
CANADA

In the United States

FAST Driver Registration Office
50 South Main St., Suite 100R
St. Albans VT 05478
UNITED STATES

Section C – Employment History for the Last 5 Years

Please provide your employment history for the last **five continuous** years. If you were unemployed or took a leave of absence during the last five years, please state this on your application. If there is not enough space on the application, attach a separate sheet. There should be no gaps. See the example below:

Box 48, Current employer: Your current employer is the employer you are working for on the date you sign this form. Write the date you started working for your current employer (e.g., started 2001/01, today's date 2004/01).

Box 49, Employer's name: e.g., ABC Company.

Box 50, Street address: Must be completed (e.g., 123 Main Street).

Box 51, Apt.: Write the suite, office, or apartment number in the building (e.g., Suite 1234).

Box 52, City: City or town where the company is situated (e.g., Toronto).

Box 53, Province/State: Use the two-letter abbreviation (e.g., ON for Ontario, NY for New York).

Box 54, Postal/Zip code: Must be a Canadian postal code (e.g., L2A 5W2) or a United States zip code (e.g., 45678).

Box 55, Country: Canada or the United States.

Box 56, Telephone number: Current employer's telephone number.

Box 57, Occupation: Describe or list the job you were paid for (e.g., driver). If your occupation is not related to being a commercial driver in the transportation industry, please state that (e.g., teacher, waiter).

Boxes 58 and 59, Previous Employer name and address: If you have worked for your current employer for less than five years, complete these two boxes. Indicate the dates (e.g., from 1998/07 to 2001/01) and the employer or company (e.g., ABC Company), you worked for prior to working for your current employer.

Note

If you were **not** employed, or were attending school, college, or university, indicate the timeframe (e.g., from 1998/01 to 2000/12) and write “unemployed” or “college student”.

Lack of employment will not disqualify you from participation, if you are otherwise admissible to the United States and Canada, and meet all other program requirements.

To fully benefit from the FAST process, you must be transporting eligible goods for a FAST-approved carrier and importer.

Section D – Additional Information

Answer all of the questions in Section D. If you have answered “yes” to any of the questions, provide all of the details on the application form or attach a separate sheet. Indicate any convictions for offences in any country for which you have not received a pardon (e.g., alcohol related offences). You must also indicate any immigration or customs violations. For Canadian background checks on admissibility, you may be questioned with regards to offences committed outside Canada, pardons granted by countries other than Canada and deemed rehabilitation.

For United States background checks, you may be questioned about your full criminal history, including arrests or pardons.

You must indicate if you have ever applied to Citizenship and Immigration Canada for rehabilitation.

You must also indicate any waivers of inadmissibility you have been issued by the CPB.

Section E – Certification

The laws that protect personal information collected by government agencies differ in Canada and the United States. You should read the United States and Canadian privacy statements and the certification statement on the application form carefully. You must sign and date the certification statement.

The United States *Privacy Act* applies to United States citizens and United States permanent residents, including Canadian and other nationals who fall into either of these two categories. The Canadian *Privacy Act* applies to all persons applying to the Canadian portion of the program.

Clearly print your name. Remember to sign and date your application.

Section F – Fee Payment

For every application there is a non-refundable fee for the FAST Commercial Driver Program of CAN\$80 or US\$50. Program participation will be valid for a five-year period.

Box 69: Include the fee payment – either CAN\$80 or US\$50. If you are paying by credit card, include the name of the cardholder, the 16 digit card number, and the card’s expiry date. AMEX, Visa, and MasterCard are acceptable.

Note

All Canadian and United States credit card fees will be processed in Canadian funds. Cheque or money order payments must be negotiable in Canadian funds and must be made payable to the **Receiver General for Canada**. We will **not** accept money orders stating “negotiable in United States only”. If the money order is issued in the United States you must ensure that it is an international money order.

Do not send cash.

Mail your completed application, photocopies of required documents, and fee payment to the address found on the application form included in this booklet.

How do I declare goods?

As a FAST Commercial Driver participant, you must declare all goods you are importing whenever you cross the border into the United States or Canada.

If you are entering the United States and are importing goods for your personal use, you must make an oral declaration to the officer in the booth. For more information, United States residents should refer to the CBP pamphlet called *Know Before You Go* and Canadian residents visiting the United States should see the publication called *Visiting the United States*.

If you are entering the United States and have goods to declare in excess of your personal exemption, you must use the regular lane.

If you are entering Canada and are importing goods for your personal use that do not exceed your personal exemption, you must make a verbal declaration to the officer in the booth. For more information about importing goods into Canada, Canadian residents should see the CBSA pamphlet called *I Declare* and United States residents should see the pamphlet called *Information for Visitors to Canada and Seasonal Residents*.

If you are entering Canada and have goods to declare in excess of your personal exemption, you must use the regular lane.

Note

Canadian residents have the option of obtaining *Traveller Declaration Cards* (TDCs) that can be presented any time you cross into Canada using the FAST lane. You must complete the card before arriving in Canada.

When you arrive, hand your TDC to the officer in the booth. If you exceed your personal exemption, the duties and tax owing will be charged to your credit card.

Are there restrictions on the goods I can import for personal use?

- You cannot import controlled, restricted, or prohibited firearms or weapons, including Mace, pepper spray, and stun guns.
- You cannot import controlled, restricted, or prohibited goods, animals, or plants. This includes controlled, restricted, or prohibited substances, endangered animals or species, and restricted fruits and vegetables. For more information, see the pamphlets mentioned previously.
- If you bring or carry more than CAN\$10,000 in currency or monetary instruments into or out of Canada, you must use the regular lane and make a declaration to the CBSA.
- If you bring or carry more than US\$10,000 in currency and monetary instruments into or out of the United States, you must use the regular lane and make a declaration to CPB.

What else do I need to know?

The card is valid for a period of five years provided you continue to meet all the terms and conditions of this program.

Only approved FAST Commercial Drivers can use FAST dedicated lanes (where available). As a FAST Commercial Driver, you remain subject to compliance and enforcement checks at any time you cross the border.

If you use the FAST dedicated lane, everyone in the vehicle must be in possession of a valid FAST Commercial Driver card and transporting eligible goods for a FAST-approved carrier and importer.

We will take a full set of fingerprints to perform criminal records checks. This biometric will be shared with other government and law enforcement agencies. In addition, any personal information you provide will be shared with other government and law enforcement agencies.

Your application will be denied if you do not meet both Canadian and United States requirements for admission into the FAST Commercial Driver Program.

Your FAST Commercial Driver card is not a travel document that authorizes your admission to the United States or Canada. Your FAST Commercial Driver card validation and expiration date will depend on your underlying citizenship or immigration status for each country. Your immigration status must be valid at all times, and you must possess appropriate immigration and identity documents in addition to your FAST Commercial Driver card. These may include your passport (required for some countries), birth certificate, visa, permanent resident card, employment authorization, work permit, and other related documents.

Penalties for the provision of false information

The failure to provide true, accurate, and complete information in an application to the FAST Commercial Driver Program may result in denial of your application. Penalties are provided by law for knowingly and willfully falsifying or concealing a material fact, or using any false document in submitting your application. A false representation also may result in the denial of this and any other application you may make for any benefit under United States immigration laws.

United States FAST lane conditions

Applicants acknowledge and agree that if they violate any conditions of this program, or any law or regulation of any Federal Inspection Service, or are otherwise determined to be inadmissible to the United States, their participation in this program may be revoked and they may be subject to other applicable sanctions. Such sanctions may include, but are not limited to, criminal prosecution, removal proceedings, imposition of civil monetary penalties, and seizures of merchandise and vehicles. Conditions by which applicants must abide include, but are not limited to, the following:

- (a) adherence to all state, federal, and local laws regarding the importation of alcohol and agriculture products, possession and importation of controlled substances, and all other laws and regulations under the jurisdiction of any federal agency.

- (b) adherence to all requirements of the *Immigration and Nationality Act*, as amended, CPB regulations, and all Federal Inspection Service regulations regarding documentary requirements.

If you violate the terms and conditions of this program, we may cancel your privileges and you may face fines, penalties, and criminal charges. We will strictly enforce the law.

Canadian FAST lane conditions

Applicants acknowledge and agree that if they violate any conditions of this program, or are otherwise determined to be inadmissible to Canada, their participation in this program may be revoked and they may be subject to other applicable sanctions.

Mail your completed application, photocopies of required documents, and fee payment to the address found on the application form included in this booklet.

For more information

Please contact the FAST Commercial Driver Program processing centres at:

FAST Commercial Driver Program
4551 Zimmerman Avenue
P.O. Box 66
Niagara Falls ON L2E 6T1
CANADA

FAST Driver Registration Office
Customs and Border Protection
50 South Main St., Suite 100R
St. Albans VT 05478
UNITED STATES

Visit our web sites at:

www.cbsa.gc.ca/fast
www.cbp.gov

Notes

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