

Intrastate Operating Authority Exemptions

All carriers that transport in commerce, point-to-point in Missouri must obtain Intrastate Operating Authority. Under state law [RSMo 390.030](#), certain vehicles or type of operations are exempt from registering or obtaining authority. The following types of vehicles and/or operations exempt from registration requirements are:

1. School Buses
 - The transportation of formally-enrolled students of a recognized school to or from that school or to or from any place on a trip sanctioned by the school for educational or school purposes is exempt under this section. If the transportation in a school bus does not fall under this interpretation, the resulting transportation would require a registration or authority.
2. Taxicabs
 - A motor vehicle having a seating capacity of not more than five passengers, exclusive of the driver and not operated on a specific or designated route would be exempt under this section. This seating capacity is the manufactured capacity of the vehicle. If a larger passenger capacity vehicle has been permanently modified to this level, the operation would be exempt.
3. Vehicles used exclusively to transport:
 - (a) Stocker and feeder livestock from farm to farm, or from market to farm,
 - (b) Farm or dairy products including livestock from a farm or dairy,
 - (c) Agricultural limestone or fertilizer to farms,
 - (d) Property from farm to farm,
 - (e) Raw Forest Products from farm, or
 - (f) Cotton, cottonseed and cottonseed hulls;
 - Market to market hauls of farm products are not exemption under this section.
4. Contract with Federal Government to transport US mail and when on a trip provided in the contract.
5. Motor vehicles used solely in the distribution of newspapers from publishers to subscribers or distributors. Transporting inserts for the paper when going to the publisher is not exempt under this section.
6. Transportation of property or passengers performed by a carrier pursuant to a contract between the carrier and the state of Missouri or any civil subdivision where the transportation services are paid directly by the state or civil subdivision.
7. Freight-carrying vehicles registered and licensed for a gross weight of 6000 lbs. or less.
8. The transportation of passengers or property wholly within a municipality, or between contiguous (touching) municipalities, or within a commercial zone*; provided, the exemption shall not apply to:
 - Motor carriers of persons operating to, from or between points located wholly or in part in counties now or hereafter having a population of more than three hundred thousand persons, where such points are not within the same municipality (St. Louis and Kansas City area); and to
 - Motor carriers of commodities in bulk to include liquids, in tank or hopper type vehicles.
 - Motor carriers of household goods: a commercial zone is defined as any municipality (city, town, etc. having its own incorporated government) within this state together with that territory

either within or without the state of Missouri, extending one mile beyond the corporate limits of such municipality and one additional mile for each fifty thousand inhabitants or portion thereof; however, any commercial zone of a city (applies to St. Louis City only) not within a county shall extend eighteen miles beyond that city's corporate limits and shall also extend throughout any first class charter county which adjoins that zone.

9. Street railroads and public utilities.
10. Motor vehicles whose operations in the state of Missouri are interstate in character and are limited exclusively to a municipality and its commercial zone.
 - This exemption is limited to coming into Missouri to a city and its commercial zone on the border of the state and the interstate movement staying within that city and its commercial zone.
11. Motor vehicles, commonly known as tow trucks or wreckers, designed and exclusively used in the business of towing or otherwise rendering assistance to abandoned, disabled or wrecked vehicles.
12. Motor vehicles while being used solely by a group of employees to commute to and from their place or places of employment, except that the motor vehicle must be driven by a member of the group.
13. Nothing in this chapter shall apply to private carriers except for provisions of subdivision (5) of section 390.041. Private carriers are not required to register but fall under state and federal safety rules and regulations.

*Commercial zone areas are defined in Missouri Revised Statutes 390.020 and are outlined in the Missouri Vehicle Route Map. An electronic copy of the map can be found in the electronic toolbox at www.modot.org/mcs. Send an e-mail to ContactMCS@modot.mo.gov for a paper copy of the Missouri Vehicle Route Map.