

# BMV Communications



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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Improved Restricted Class B CDL provides greater flexibility for agricultural retailers

**INDIANAPOLIS**—The Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV) and Indiana State Department of Agriculture (ISDA) are pleased to announce new seasonal options available for the Restricted Class B Commercial Driver's License (CDL), which will provide greater flexibility for producers and agricultural retailers. The new policy will take effect on Feb. 1, 2017.

"During the planting and harvest seasons, those in agriculture have enough to worry about without making it tougher for them to get the proper CDL," said BMV Commissioner Kent Abernathy. "This new policy gives them more flexibility."

Prior to this policy change, those in agricultural transport could only haul seasonal loads during predesignated periods of time (e.g., April 2 through June 30). During planting season in particular, this put some producers and agricultural retailers at a disadvantage who, regardless of climate or their specific operations, were unable to haul loads before April 2.

Under this new policy, drivers will be able to custom tailor their Restricted Class B CDL license to their own needs and will no longer be restricted to predesignated periods of time.

"Many unknown variables affect planting and harvest seasons, and producers and agribusinesses know best what works for them," said Ted McKinney, ISDA Director. "By providing greater flexibility, this is a major victory for Indiana's agricultural community. I commend BMV on their work and for being such a great partner on this issue."

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The Restricted Class B CDL still has to be renewed every four years, and the seasonal periods can be changed at time of renewal. Such a license allows operation of Class B and Class C vehicles only. Holders may not carry hazardous material loads that require a placard except for;

- Diesel fuel in quantities of 1,000 gallons or less
- Liquid fertilizers in vehicles or implements of animal husbandry with total capacities of 3,000 gallons or less
- Solid fertilizers that are not transported with any organic substance

*Note to the Editor: As a reference, below is what those in agricultural transport will see on the new application for Restricted Class B CDL.*

*Seasonal period(s) must be at least 30 days but not more than 180 days.  
The combination of two seasonal periods must not exceed 180 days.*

*Indicate one (1) or two (2) seasonal periods below:*

*Seasonal Period One (1) Begin Date: \_\_\_\_\_ (mm/dd/yyyy)  
Duration in days: \_\_30 \_\_60 \_\_90 \_\_120 \_\_150 \_\_180*

*Seasonal Period Two (2) Begin Date: \_\_\_\_\_ (mm/dd/yyyy)  
Duration in days: \_\_30 \_\_60 \_\_90 \_\_120 \_\_150 \_\_180*