

Start Here

This recreated article gives Florida CDL drivers a clean, county-neutral overview of the Hazmat endorsement process. Requirements can change, and individual Driver License offices may handle appointments differently, so always confirm with FLHSMV or the office that offers Hazmat fingerprinting before you go.

Who this is for	Big rule	ELDT reminder
CDL drivers applying for a new, expired, renewed, or transferred Hazmat endorsement in Florida.	Florida applicants must pass the Hazmat written test, complete fingerprinting, pass the TSA background check, and present proof of residency before receiving the endorsement.	First-time Hazmat applicants must complete Hazmat ELDT theory before the H knowledge test can be administered.

1. Before You Apply

Requirement	What it means
Identity and residency	Bring documents that establish identity, lawful status, Social Security verification, and Florida residential address when required. If your Florida driver license is already REAL ID compliant and nothing has changed, fewer documents may be needed.
CDL status	Hold a current Florida CDL or complete the CDL requirements for the license class you are seeking. The Hazmat endorsement is issued on a CDL, not as a stand-alone credential.
Medical certification	Keep your CDL medical certification current when it applies to your operating category.
Hazmat ELDT	If this is your first time applying for the Hazardous Materials (H) endorsement, complete Hazmat ELDT theory through a registered training provider before taking the H knowledge test.

Before You Go

Confirm the location offers Hazmat fingerprinting, confirm appointment requirements, ask whether they want the Hazmat application completed before you arrive, and verify acceptable payment methods. Do not assume every Driver License office handles Hazmat. That is how folks end up making two trips.

2. Step-by-Step Hazmat Testing and Application Process

1	Complete Hazmat ELDT theory if this is your first time applying for the H endorsement.
2	Study the Hazmat section of the Florida CDL manual. Do not wing it - Hazmat has details that can trip drivers up.
3	Find a Florida Driver License office that offers Hazmat fingerprinting. Not every office provides this service.
4	Confirm whether an appointment is required and ask what documents, forms, and payment methods the location accepts.
5	At the appointment, apply for the Hazmat endorsement and take/pass the Hazmat written knowledge test.
6	Complete fingerprinting and submit the Hazmat application. Florida says fingerprinting must be done at a Hazmat-capable Driver License office at the same time the Hazmat application is made.
7	Pay the required fees, including the \$91 Hazmat application/background-check fee plus standard CDL and endorsement issuance fees.
8	Wait for TSA to complete the security threat assessment. When approved, Florida issues the CDL with the Hazmat endorsement.

3. Fees, Renewal, and TSA Background Check

Fee / item	Notes
Hazmat application/background check	Florida lists this fee as \$91. It covers the background check process and is charged in addition to standard CDL/endorsement issuance fees.
CDL and endorsement issuance fees	Standard license and endorsement fees still apply. Some service centers may have additional local processing/service fees.
Refunds	Fees may be non-refundable if the applicant does not pass the TSA background check. Confirm at the office before payment.

Renewal timing

Florida says renewal applicants should begin the background check process at least 30 days before license expiration. Hazmat-endorsed CDLs must be renewed every four years and may be renewed up to one year before expiration.

After fingerprinting

Florida submits the information to TSA for eligibility determination. FLHSMV notes it does not have status information until TSA makes its final decision.

4. If the Application Is Approved or Denied

Approved	For new or expired Hazmat applicants, Florida issues a CDL without the Hazmat endorsement on the day of application. If TSA approves the background check, Florida mails a new license with the Hazmat endorsement.
Denied	If TSA denies the application, the driver may pursue the TSA appeal or waiver process. Follow the instructions provided by TSA and FLHSMV.

5. What to Bring

Driver checklist

Current Florida CDL or required CDL documents; proof of identity and lawful status; proof of Social Security Number if required; proof of Florida residential address; current medical certification if applicable; Hazmat application form if the location asks you to bring it; payment method for all required fees; and confirmation that ELDT Hazmat theory has been completed if you are a first-time H applicant.

6. Helpful Links

		
Start ELDT Theory GorgeousTruckHers.com	FLHSMV Hazmat Info requirements and locations	FLHSMV Status Check pending H applications

Trainer Note

Hazmat is not something to play with or rush through. Study the manual, complete the ELDT requirement if it applies, bring the right documents, and make sure you are at the correct office. Preparation keeps you from making two trips when one should have done the job.

Sources used for this recreated resource

Florida Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles: Hazmat Information; FMCSA: Entry-Level Driver Training; FMCSA Training Provider Registry: ELDT Applicability; Florida HazMat Endorsement Status Check. This handout is for general CDL readiness education and does not replace official FLHSMV, FMCSA, TSA, or local Driver License office instructions.