

September 2003

## Commercial Drivers' Fitness Requirements

The Office of the Superintendent of Motor Vehicles (OSMV) implemented the National Safety Code's schedule of medical monitoring for commercial drivers on September 1, 2003.

The Driver Fitness Program at the Office of the Superintendent and the National Safety Code aim to protect public safety by ensuring drivers are fit and able to drive safely. Our move to fully comply with the NSC commercial driver fitness standards will help us jointly to meet this aim.

### The National Safety Code

The National Safety Code (NSC) is an agreement between the federal and provincial governments to set minimum performance standards for all commercial vehicles and their drivers. The NSC has a schedule for commercial driver medical examinations. The Canadian provinces, including British Columbia, are moving to this schedule for their commercial drivers, to improve road safety. If you plan travel to the United States or other Canadian jurisdictions, it also means that your B.C. commercial driver's licence will continue to be accepted as proof of your fitness to drive.

### Driver's Medical Examination Schedule

This schedule requires drivers holding a class 1, 2, 3 or 4 licence or class 5 licence with endorsements 18, 19 and 20 to take and submit to OSMV a *Driver's Medical Examination* form upon application for a licence and at the following intervals:

- every fifth year (i.e. when the driver is in their 25<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>, 35<sup>th</sup>, 40<sup>th</sup> and 45<sup>th</sup> year of age)
- every third year (i.e. when the driver is in their 48<sup>th</sup>, 51<sup>st</sup>, 54<sup>th</sup>, 57<sup>th</sup>, 60<sup>th</sup> and 63<sup>rd</sup> year of age)
- every year for drivers age 66 and older.

### Fees

A processing fee of \$28 will be charged when you initially apply for a commercial driver's licence and each time you renew your five-year driver's licence. This is in addition to the regular renewal fee. The processing fee covers the administrative cost for processing the increased volume of medical examinations. The cost of the medical examination itself remains your responsibility.

### Driver's Medical Examination Form

A Driver's Medical Examination form will be sent to you by mail about six months prior to your birthday on the appropriate year based on the medical examination schedule (above). The form provides instructions for completion. If you already hold a commercial licence and no longer drive professionally, you may change to a class 5 driver's licence when a form is sent to you, or when you renew your driver's licence, whichever comes first.

### More information for Commercial Drivers:

- ICBC Web site [www.icbc.com](http://www.icbc.com)
- Superintendent of Motor Vehicles
  - Web site [www.pssg.gov.bc.ca/osmv](http://www.pssg.gov.bc.ca/osmv)
  - Phone: 250 387-7747 (in Victoria)

