



March 2020

Message from the Executive Director

COVID-19 Update

As UCR's Executive Director, I am keeping a close eye on developments related to the spread of COVID-19 and its impact to the UCR Board, subcommittees, staff, state and industry partners, and other stakeholders. We remain committed to the health and safety of every one of our constituents, and understand that your attendance at our in-person meetings may include travel and physical interaction with groups of people from across the country, and that you may have concerns about health risks.

At this time, the UCR Board has not made any decisions about the current schedule of in-person meetings over the next several months. However, we are also aware that some states have prohibited state employee travel until further notice. UCR recognizes that unless the prohibitions are rescinded, this will prevent travel by those state employees to these scheduled in-person meetings. We are monitoring risk levels and actions taken by governmental entities daily.

[Read the full message.](#)

2020 UCR Registration Open

The 2020 UCR registration period is open. For the third consecutive year, commercial carriers and other entities subject to UCR will see a reduction in fees. The fee reductions for 2018 through 2020 are based on recommendations from the UCR Board of Directors to the FMCSA following several years of higher than expected collections. [See fees.](#)

[Register Now](#)

For support or questions, call 1-833-UCR-PLAN or send an email to <mailto:helpdesk@ucr.gov>

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Begin Enforcement June 1

Due to the delayed opening of the 2020 registration period, UCR recommends states delay enforcement until June 1, 2020.

Complete State Carrier Audits by March 31

States participating in the UCR program are required to conduct an annual audit of their carriers. All states must complete their audit by March 31, 2020. Final audit reports must be submitted through the [admin portal of the National Registration System](#) by June 1, 2020.

[Learn more.](#)

June UCR Training to Cover UCR 101, Enforcement and NRS

The UCR Education and Training Subcommittee will hold the first in-person state employee training of the year June 8 at the National Conference of State Transportation Specialists (NCSTS) Annual Summer Conference in Portland, Oregon. Each state is required to send at least one person, and UCR will reimburse travel expenses for one attendee per state. The training will include:

- **UCR 101:** A complete overview of the Unified Carrier Registration Plan including the 2005 law establishing the program, importance guidance resources such as the [UCR Agreement](#) and [UCR Handbook](#), eligibility and exemptions, critical policies and procedures, key terms and definitions and more.
- **Enforcement:** Everything state law enforcement needs to know about UCR including defining and understanding intra- vs. interstate, exemptions, common red flags to watch for, enforcement tools and consequences for non-compliance.
- **National Registration System:** The [National Registration System](#) is “home base” for states and industry alike. In this session, state employees will learn the purpose of the system’s modules (refunds, audit, reporting, solicitation, etc.) and how to operate in each.

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- **Board of Directors Leadership Training:** UCR Board members are invited to attend leadership training that will cover their fiduciary responsibilities as Directors, as well as key governance strategies.
- **State Carrier Auditing:** All UCR participating states are required to conduct an annual audit of carriers operating in their state. This session provides hands-on training for executing these specialized audits, including how to use the Carrier Audit module in the registration system and best practices gleaned from other states.

The UCR Board of Directors will also meet at the NCSTS Annual Summer Conference on June 9.

[Learn more.](#)

UCR Depository Update

Expected Date of Disbursements to States for 2020 Registration Fees Collected

The 2020 registration year began on February 13, 2020. Registration activity has been very high paced, and the UCR Depository is currently closing the books for the collections made during February. Fees will be disbursed to the states by Monday, March 16. As is the practice of the UCR Depository, email notifications will be sent to state contacts prior to the disbursement of funds. State personnel can contact UCR Depository Manager [Dave Scholz](#) with questions.

Industry News

FMCSA Advances Final Rule on HOS to the White House

After weighing public comments, the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) has sent its final hours-of-service ruling to the White House Office of Management and Budget for approval.

[Read the article.](#)

Source: Lamb, Eleanor. "FMCSA Advances Final Rule on HOS to the White House." Transport Topics. March 3, 2020. www.ttnews.com

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California Carrier Gives Drivers Tips to Combat Coronavirus

Recommended precautions include covering your cough or sneeze with a tissue and washing your hands often, using hand sanitizer if soap and water aren't available.

[Read the article.](#)

Source: Hollis, David. "California carrier gives drivers tips to combat coronavirus." Truckers News. February 27, 2020. www.truckersnews.com

Upcoming UCR Events

March 19

[Education and Training Subcommittee Meeting](#)

April 23

[UCR Board of Directors Meeting](#)

June 8

[UCR State Employee Training](#)

June 9

[UCR Board of Directors Meeting](#)

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