CLASS C:

If you drive...

• Any vehicle with GVWR of less than 26,001 pounds used and placarded to transport hazardous materials; or,
• Any bus, including school buses, designed to carry 16 or more passengers, including the driver, and with a GVWR of less than 26,001 pounds and all school buses designed for 15 or fewer passengers, including the driver,
• Any bus, limo or van designed to transport 8 to 15 passengers, including the driver, which is used for hire.

Most commercial motor vehicle operators will need to obtain at least one special endorsement. Each requires a separate test.

• Double and Triple Trailer Endorsement: Needed for vehicles pulling two or three trailers. A Class A license is required to operate this type of vehicle.
• Passenger Endorsement: Needed for all motor vehicles - including buses and limos - designed to transport eight or more passengers (including the driver) for hire. Requires a road test. See “Special Requirements” on next page.
• Tank Vehicle Endorsement: Needed for vehicles that transport liquids or gas in bulk.
• Hazardous Materials Endorsement: Needed for vehicles transporting hazardous materials. Must be trained and retested every two years by employer according to federal guidelines.
• School Bus Endorsement: Needed for all school bus drivers. (P Endorsement is also required.)

(Note: a CDL Class C driver must have a “P” &/or “H” endorsement. If the driver drops these endorsements, a Class C commercial license automatically becomes the basic Class D passenger license.)

Special Requirements For Passenger Endorsements

Passenger endorsement “P” applicants must meet more stringent requirements than most other CDL endorsement applicants.

Applicants must: have 20/40 vision in each eye (with or without glasses or corrective lenses); have 70 degrees of peripheral vision in each eye; recognize red, green and amber colors; be physically and morally fit; have three years driving experience; and, be at least 21 years of age.

All “P” endorsement applicants must undergo a background check that includes fingerprinting. A designated State vendor electronically scans and transmits fingerprints. For more detailed information concerning the fingerprint process, please refer to your declaration flyer available at the MVC Agency or MVC’s Web site, www.njmvc.gov. A copy of the federal DOT physical examination form, with the medical examiner’s certificate, is available on MVC’s Web site.

Applicants who are employed by public transportation company but who do not intend to operate school buses must undergo a state criminal background investigation only. This application is available on MVC’s Web site and Agencies. These drivers will be fingerprinted under New Jersey Statute NJSA 39:3-10.1.

School Bus Endorsement

An applicant must pass several application procedures to operate school buses (S1 and S2 plates, S endorsement) under the purview of New Jersey’s Department of Education (DOE), Department of Human Services (DHS; including day care centers) or private and parochial schools.

All school bus “S” endorsement applicants must undergo a background check. Applicants applying for school bus driver positions under DOE’s jurisdiction
must have both state and federal background checks (NJSA 18A:39-19.1). Employers or local school districts oversee the background check application. When renewing the “S” endorsement, drivers will be responsible for initiating the fingerprint archive process. Start this process a minimum of four weeks prior to renewing a CDL.

School bus operators not under DOE’s jurisdiction must also be fingerprinted under NJSA 39:3-10.1, regardless of other fingerprint requirements imposed by their employment. This includes DHS (day care) or private and parochial school employment.

Upon application for the “P” endorsement or the “S” endorsement, the applicant must present a current, legible and completed U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) physical examination form with a copy of the medical examiner’s certificate and the declaration flyer.

**ALL APPLICANTS ARE ADVISED TO KEEP COPIES OF THESE DOCUMENTS and THE FINGERPRINT RECEIPT FOR THEIR RECORDS.**

After initial “P” endorsement or “S” endorsement issuance, all applicants must submit current, completed U.S. DOT medical forms every two years to:

NJ Motor Vehicle Commission
Bus Application Unit
PO Box 127
Trenton, New Jersey 08666-0127

At the time you renew your CDL, if there is a change of employment from commercial (P Endorsement only) to any employment requiring the “S” endorsement, a new declaration must be submitted to MVC. The requirement of a new declaration is also required when changing employment from the Dept. of Education to non-Dept. of Education school bus drivers, or from non-Dept. of Education to Dept. of Education school bus drivers.

Changes from one employer to another may require additional fingerprinting in compliance with employment and MVC requirements.

Should you decide that you no longer wish to maintain one or both of the endorsements (P or P with the S), please drop it from your license. Failure to do so will result in your being held responsible for the requirements that pertain to the endorsement(s) and could result in suspension.

**Disqualification Information**

After a passenger endorsement is issued, MVC reserves the right to deny or suspend the passenger endorsement if any disqualifying information is found on the driver’s medical, criminal or driver history records. If required, a scheduled notice of suspension will be sent to the applicant.

Causes for disqualification or suspension of the “P” endorsement include, but are not limited to: Failure to prove three years driving experience; the accumulation of 12 or more motor vehicle violation points; convictions for operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol or drugs; offenses involving deviant or illicit social behavior; the use or threat of bodily force; or, any crime or offense indicative of bad moral character. Among the medical grounds for disqualification may be a diabetic condition, a serious heart condition and a medical condition that could cause the loss of consciousness or failure to meet vision standards.

All applicants who were fingerprinted under the jurisdiction of the state Department of Education (DOE) are subject to DOE review for qualification as a school bus driver. If DOE finds cause to disqualify an applicant as a school bus driver, they will notify MVC to suspend the “S” endorsement, which cannot be restored until DOE notifies MVC in writing that requirements have been satisfied.

MVC may also determine a “P” endorsement suspension is required after a records review. In these cases, a scheduled notice of suspension will be sent to the applicant, who may request a conference on the “P” endorsement only.

**Hazardous Material (HME) Endorsement**

The U.S. Transportation Security Administration (TSA) must first clear all applicants for a hazardous materials endorsement (HME) before receiving or retaining the endorsement. TSA’s fingerprint vendor must fingerprint applicants. Driver’s must pre-register for fingerprint scan by telephone or on-line. Applications can be obtained at any MVC Agency or online. In every case, be specific about which fingerprint application you want.

Applications must be completed electronically before applicants can proceed to a fingerprint collection site. All information regarding instructions for completing this application is available on the application. You will not be able to obtain or retain the “HME”