

## CONDUCTOR CERTIFICATION FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**1. When does conductor certification become effective?**

Dec. 1, 2012.

**2. I've heard I will be "grandfathered" as a certified conductor. What does that mean?**

If you are currently a locomotive engineer, RCO, hostler, or a conductor, you will automatically be certified ("grandfathered") as a conductor, and this certification will be synchronized with all previous certifications. Employees will be required to recertify during Year A/B training cycles.

**3. Will I have different certification dates for each class of service?**

No. Employees with multiple certifications will have a single expiration date for all classes of service.

**4. Will I be issued a license and what will it include?**

All certified conductors will be issued a **certificate** ("certificate" is synonymous with that employees currently refer to as a "license") that will include the person's name, employee ID, physical description, vision/hearing restrictions, date of birth, class of service, issue and expiration date, and a signature of an individual designated by the railroad.

**5. Will I be required to carry the certificate with me at work?**

Yes, you will be required to have your certificate in your possession while on duty and display the certificate upon request.

**6. What if I lose my certificate?**

A system is in place to replace lost, stolen, or damaged certificates at no cost. Certificates can be delivered to the recipient electronically, and are valid for no more than 30 days. Employees should contact their supervisors for a new certificate.

## **7. What are conductor certification requirements?**

CFR 218 Subpart F Operations (OPTs) Test and Year A or B training are still required annually.

- Conductors must recertify as a conductor once every three years.
- Conductors must receive a 90% or better on a three-part exam, pass their hearing and vision tests and pass the state motor vehicle record review. Conductors must also complete the CFR 218 Subpart F (OPTs) test within the calendar year.
- Locomotive engineers who recertify as locomotive engineers will automatically be recertified as a conductor.

## **8. What actions would require me to be held from service (HFS)?**

The following actions would require you to be HFS:

- Failed or incomplete Year B rules exam
- Incomplete certificate expiration/recertification
- Suspension or revocation
- Incomplete hearing conservation
- DUI conviction not handled/resolved
- OPTs test incomplete on Dec. 31
- Expiration of 30-day waiver

## **9. What are the revocable events for conductors?**

Revocable events for conductors are:

- Passing a signal that requires a complete stop before passing
- Restricted speed and speed 10 MPH over
- Required air brake test
- Occupying main track without authority
- Disabling a safety device
- Failing a drug and alcohol test, and
- Incidents involving shoving movements, equipment fouling adjacent tracks, hand operated switches (crossovers), hand operated switches connected to the main track, hand operated crossover switches (before and after movements), and hand operated derails, that result in a reportable rail incident

**10. While performing service as an engineer, if my license is revoked, what revocable events would prevent me from working as a conductor?**

The following revocable events would prevent you from working as a conductor:

- Passing a signal requiring a complete stop before passing
- Restricted speed and speed 10 MPH over
- Required air brake test
- Occupying main track without authority
- Disabling a safety device
- Failing a drug and alcohol test

**11. When performing service as a conductor, if my license is revoked, what revocable events would prevent me from working as a locomotive engineer?**

The following revocable events would prevent you from working as a locomotive engineer:

- Passing a signal requiring a complete stop before passing
- Restricted speed and speed 10 MPH over
- Required air brake test
- Occupying main track without authority
- Disabling a safety device
- Failing a drug and alcohol test

**12. Must certified conductors report DUI/DWI convictions?**

Yes. As covered by GCOR 1.6.1 and SSI instructions. DUI/DWI convictions will be handled the same way for all certified employees (locomotive engineers, RCO, hostlers and conductors).

**13. When will conductor new hires be certified as conductors?**

New hires will be issued a conductor certification upon successful completion of training, per agreement (15 weeks under the BN agreement and 13 weeks under the SF agreement).