

# MOTOR CARRIER FAQs

## 1. DO I NEED A PUC NUMBER?

- a. When both the origin and destination of your trip are in Pennsylvania and you are compensated for that trip, you need to apply for a PUC (utility) number. Taxi and Limousine service in the City of Philadelphia are under the jurisdiction of the Philadelphia Parking Authority (PPA). A Federal Department of Transportation (DOT) and/or Federal Motor Carrier number do not authorize you to do intrastate business.
- b. Yes, when you are brokering transportation within Pennsylvania.

## 2. ARE THERE EXEMPTIONS FROM THE PUC AUTHORITY?

Yes. Visit <https://www.puc.pa.gov/filing-resources/forms/motor-carrier-forms/> and click on the green "exemption list" in the second paragraph.

## 3. HOW MUCH DOES IT COST?

Property (Truck) and Group and Party 16+ (GP16+) applications are each \$100. All others are \$350.

## 4. HOW CAN I APPLY?

You can find our applications on our PUC website at <https://www.puc.pa.gov/motor-carrier/forms-applications/>. You can mail your document to our Harrisburg location, or you can eFile online at <https://efiling.puc.pa.gov/>.

## 5. HOW LONG DOES THE APPLICATION PROCESS TAKE?

- Property and GP16+ processing time is about 2-3 weeks.
- TNC processing time is about 1 month.
- All other authorities have an estimated processing time of 3 months or longer.

## 6. WHAT TYPE OF INSURANCE IS REQUIRED?

- Motor carriers need commercial insurance. Insurance forms must come directly from an insurance underwriter. Cargo waivers must be signed and submitted by the applicant. On-Hook insurance for towing is not acceptable. For insurance-related questions, call 717-787-1227 and leave a message to receive a call back, or visit <https://www.puc.pa.gov/motor-carrier/insurance/> to find insurance information.
- Brokers need a surety bond. Samples can be found at <https://www.puc.pa.gov/motor-carrier/insurance/>.

## 7. CAN I CHECK MY ACCOUNT INFORMATION ONLINE?

You can check most information about your filings with the PUC online. You can use your utility number or search by name at <https://www.puc.pa.gov/search/utility-authority-search/>. You can also check your insurance status online.

## 8. WILL THIS PUC NUMBER ALLOW FOR TAX EXEMPTIONS?

Possibly. Some revenue might be exempt. Please contact the Department of Revenue for all questions related to tax exemptions.

## 9. WHAT IS A Z-STOP?

It is a vehicle registration block. This means that your Certificate of Public Convenience was revoked. Contact us for more information. The Department of Transportation (PennDOT) is unable to let you register until the PUC releases that stop.



**Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission**  
400 North Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17120  
[www.puc.pa.gov](http://www.puc.pa.gov)

General questions - 717.787.3834  
Insurance questions - 717.787.1227  
(Please leave a detailed message)

