



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION
COMMONWEALTH KEYSTONE BUILDING
400 NORTH STREET
HARRISBURG, PENNSYLVANIA 17120
<http://www.puc.pa.gov>

January 21, 2026

A-6228508
A-2025-3059348

SONAM LA LLC
2015 PITTSTON AVENUE
SCRANTON PA 18505

RE: Application of Sonam LA LLC

To Whom It May Concern:

On December 17, 2025, the application of Sonam LA LLC, at A-2025-3059348, as a motor carrier was accepted for filing and docketed with the Public Utility Commission. In order for the Commission to proceed with the application, additional information is required.

Please forward the information to the Secretary of the Commission at the following address **within ten (10) working days** from the date of this letter.

Matthew L. Homsher, Secretary
Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission
Commonwealth Keystone Building
400 North Street
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania 17120

ALL Parties to proceedings pending before the Commission are advised to open and use an e-filing account through the Commission's website, OR you may submit your filing by mail. If a filing contains confidential or proprietary material, the filing is required to be submitted by overnight delivery.

Your answers should be verified per 52 Pa Code § 1.36. Accordingly, you must provide the following statement with your responses:

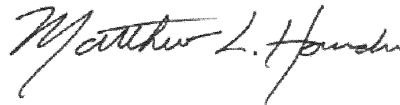
I, Tek Khadka, hereby state that the facts above set forth are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief, and that I expect to be able to prove the same at a hearing held in this matter. I understand that the statements herein are made subject to the penalties of 18 Pa.C.S. § 4904 (relating to unsworn falsification to authorities).

The blank should be filled in with the name of the appropriate company representative, and the signature of that representative should follow the statement.

Failure to comply with this request within 10 working days from the date of this letter will result in the denial of the application.

Please direct any questions to David Canzoneri, Bureau of Technical Utility Services at (717) 346-9738. Faxed or emailed filings are **not** accepted.

Sincerely,



Matthew L. Homsher
Secretary

Enclosure

Docket No. A-2025-3059348
Sonam LA LLC

Request for Information

- 1.) You failed to adequately answer all aspects of question #5 of the Verified Statement of Applicant. **Please review Title 52 Pa Code §29.501-509 Driver Regulations to see what is required of motor carriers.**
- a. In the attached paperwork, you stated that you would allow individuals who are over 18 years of age to be employed as a driver.
 - i. In your response to the Commission's request for information regarding this matter, it is unclear if you are still permitting individuals aged 18-20 to operate vehicles in your service. If you are still permitting individuals aged 18-20 to operate vehicles in your service, then you will need to provide a policy for individuals who are under 21 years of age that complies with the regulations found at Title 52 Pa Code §29.503.
 - b. Your system for conducting driver license/history checks;
 - i. How often will driver license/history checks be conducted? In your response to the Commission's data request you stated that you would have a system with periodic and continuous checks. Please define what "periodic and continuous checks" means. Please keep in mind that this policy should comply with the regulations found at Title 52 Pa Code §29.504(a)(2).
 - ii. How will you maintain records (record retention) of such checks? You failed to provide your policy for how long driver license/history checks would be maintained. Please provide a policy that complies with the regulations found at Title 52 Pa Code §29.504(a)(3).

PLEASE PROVIDED A THOROUGH TYPED RESPONSE TO THESE QUESTIONS ON A SEPARATE SHEET OF PAPER

5

- a. Will hire only qualified Drivers. The criteria are: 1. Minimum age of 21. 2. At least 1 or more years of driving experience. 3. Ability to pass background checks and drug testing. Professionalism and customer service skills.

- b. Background Check: Using State site PA patch, no driver will be hired if checks reveal major violation. While § 29.505 is the PUC baseline, as a NEMT business provider in Pennsylvania, the company adheres to additional layers of disqualification while contracting with **MATP (Medical Assistance Transportation Program)** or brokers:
 - **Child Abuse Clearance:** Any "indicated" or "founded" report of child abuse generally disqualifies a driver from transporting minors or vulnerable adults.
 - **Excluded Providers List (LEIE/Medicaid):** Drivers must not appear on the OIG's List of Excluded Individuals/Entities. If a driver has been convicted of **Medicaid fraud** or patient abuse, they are permanently barred from NEMT work.
 - **FBI Fingerprinting:** Convictions for aggravated assault, kidnapping, or felony drug crimes often trigger a lifetime ban under MATP-specific contracts, even if they fall outside the PUC's 7-year window.

While hiring a driver, the company will follow an automatic ground for rejection to ensure compliance. Any one of the following convictions will automatically disqualify.

1. **Any Sex Offense** (Lifetime).
2. **Any Crime of Violence** (Lifetime).
3. **DUI or Drug Felony** (Minimum 7 years).
4. **Theft or Fraud Felony** (Minimum 7 years).
5. **Crimes involving a Motor Vehicle** (Minimum 10 years).

Initial Hire: A criminal history record must be obtained and reviewed from the Pennsylvania State Police (PATCH) **before** the driver is permitted to operate a vehicle.

Recurring Check: Carriers must obtain and review an updated criminal history record for each driver **every 2 years** from the date of the last check.

Retention Period

- **Duration:** The Company will keep a copy of the criminal history record for **at least 3 years** from the date it was obtained.
- **Continuous Employment:** Although the law says 3 years, the company will keep the record in his/her file for the **entire duration of the driver's employment** plus the 3-year trailing period to prove the driver was qualified during every day they were behind the wheel.

c. Driving Training: 1. Minimum of 2 hours driving practice using company Vehicle. 2. Proper vehicle inspection training. 3. Emergency and incident protocols (911). 4. Hand on training with office staff or managers.

d. Our system for driver license checks is a three-phased, redundant process designed to ensure that every driver is legally qualified and maintains a clean driving record throughout their employment.

1 A. Initial Screening: Initial screening is to ensure the candidate meets all minimum legal and company standards before they are hired.

B. Continuous Monitoring: Since a driver's license status and record can change at any time, Sonam LA LLC will review the driver's history (MVR) at least once every 12 months to ensure the driver remains qualified.

C. Drivers History (MVR):

The Company will maintain records (record retention) of driver's Licenses and History Check (MVR) for at least 3 years. The record will be maintained in the driver's individual file-folder.

2 Corrective Action: Any failure to meet the license standards triggers immediate action to protect public safety and maintain compliance.

i. **Immediate Removal from Service:** If a driver's license is found to be expired, suspended, or revoked, or if a disqualifying violation is confirmed, the driver is **immediately taken**

off schedule and prohibited from operating any company vehicle and company will immediately inform the PA Public Utility Commission about the violation and necessary action taken.

ii. Investigation and Documentation: The compliance manager investigates the violation and documents all related communication and MVR reports.

Corrective Action/Termination:

1. **Minor issues (e.g., expired license):** The driver may be placed on temporary leave without pay until they provide proof of a valid, renewed license.
2. **Major issues (e.g., DUI, revocation):** The driver is subject to termination, as such offenses violate the company's core safety and insurability standards.

d. **Alcohol/Drug Policy:** Zero tolerance to drug and alcohol policy, pre-employment drug test, no random testing, however reasonable suspicious may result drug/alcohol test. If found violation of policy may result in immediate suspension/including termination if necessary.

RE: Regarding the Request for information, the company amended the policy to hire drivers only over 21 years of age.

The driver license/history checks will be conducted every 12 months.

The driver license/history checks will be retained for 3 years.

Note: The policy is amended as per Title 52 Pa Code §29.503 and Title 52 Pa Code §29.504