

What is the National Safety Code Program (NSC)?

The NSC Program is a national program aimed at improving road safety throughout Canada with the implementation of safety standards for the operation of trucks and buses. Persons who must comply with the requirements of the NSC Program must follow these standards while operating on roadways (including drivers' hours of service, safety programs, maintenance program, driver files, dangerous goods, record keeping, and cargo securement).

Who must obtain a Safety Fitness Certificate (SFC)?

The Alberta *Traffic Safety Act* and Transport Canada's *Motor Vehicle Transport Act (1987)* requires all persons registering the following commercial "regulated vehicles" to comply with the requirement to obtain a Safety Fitness Certificate:

- a truck/tractor or trailer or any combination of these vehicles that has a registered gross vehicle weight of 11,794 kilograms or more, travelling solely within Alberta; or
- a truck/tractor or trailer or any combination of these vehicles that weighs or is registered with a gross vehicle weight of more than 4,500 kilograms that is used or intended to be used to transport goods on a highway outside of Alberta, including a farm-plated vehicle.
 - *Some exemptions to this requirement do apply. For example, persons operating a farm-plated vehicle solely within Alberta and conduct their own farm operation, are exempt from the requirements of obtaining a Safety Fitness Certificate.*
- a "bus" (including vans) that is a commercial vehicle with a manufacturer's seating capacity originally designed for carrying 11 persons or more, including the person driving the vehicle that is used or intended to be used for the transportation of persons either point to point within Alberta or when operating under the federal legislation.
 - *Persons operating a "bus/van" may be required to obtain another certificate called an Operating Authority Certificate which authorizes the transportation of passengers in such vehicles point to point within Alberta and/or to points outside of Alberta. Some exemptions from Operating Authority do apply (e.g. school buses).*

For information related to the National Safety Code and Operating Authority Programs and regulatory requirements for truck and passenger transportation services:

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT: <http://www.transportation.alberta.ca/499.htm>

View and download our *Education Manual* at: <http://www.transportation.alberta.ca/671.htm>

Contact Carrier Services at 403-340-5444 or toll free by first dialing 310-0000