



# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS: ELECTRONIC LOGGING DEVICES

## WHY IS THE GNWT ENFORCING THE USE OF ELECTRONIC LOGGING DEVICES (ELD)?

Enhancing road safety in the NWT is a priority for the GNWT. Automatically recording driving time in commercial vehicles will reduce the potential for driver fatigue, make our roads safer, prevent accidents and save lives.

The Government of Canada has mandated the use of ELDs, and all Canadian jurisdictions will implement and enforce this mandate in 2023. These amendments will align the NWT with other jurisdictions in Canada that are working to implement this safety measure.

ELDs are a more efficient and accurate way for drivers to log working hours as they replace the paper log system, where logbooks are filled out by hand and kept in the vehicle. Because ELDs automate the tracking, it will make it easier for drivers and commercial carriers to comply with Hours-of-Service regulations.

The implementation of mandatory ELDs in the NWT provides other benefits to drivers, commercial carriers, and the public:

- Reduces administrative costs for the industry.
- Reduces enforcement costs for the NWT.
- Aligns better with regulatory requirements in the rest of Canada and the United States.

## WHEN WILL ELDS BECOME MANDATORY IN THE NWT FOR COMMERCIAL CARRIERS?

June 1, 2023.

## WHAT IS AN ELECTRONIC LOGGING DEVICE?

Electronic logging devices (ELDs) are devices that automatically records driving time in commercial vehicles. They connect to the electronic control module of a vehicle and make it easier to track, manage, share, and improve the accuracy of a driver's Hours-of-Service record.



WHAT INFORMATION IS  
AUTOMATICALLY  
RECORDED BY AN  
ELECTRONIC LOGGING  
DEVICE (ELD)?

An ELD automatically records the following data elements at certain intervals: date, time, location information, engine hours, vehicle distance, identification information for the driver, authenticated user, vehicle, and motor carrier.

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WHO IS REQUIRED TO USE  
ONE?

Commercial vehicle drivers with vehicles weighing at or above 4,500 kilograms operating in the Northwest Territories (NWT).

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WHAT KIND OF ELD CAN I  
USE?

An ELD must be certified and included on the [approved list of ELDs by Transport Canada](#) to be compliant.

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WHAT IS A HOME  
TERMINAL?

A home terminal is the place of business of a carrier at which a driver ordinarily reports for work. This could be a homebase located in town, or somewhere like a highway camp.

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WOULD A DRIVER NEED  
TO RESET HOURS IF THEY  
MOVE TO A NEW HOME  
TERMINAL?

You do not need to reset the hours while moving to a new home terminal. The ELD will track your location.

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IS IT POSSIBLE TO  
DESIGNATE A TEMPORARY  
HOME TERMINAL?

Yes, it's like changing your address temporarily. Once you arrive at the new location, you can set a new home terminal.

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## DO I STILL NEED AN ELD IF I CROSS A PROVINCIAL BORDER?

Yes, once you cross a border you will be subject to federal or local regulations and must use an ELD.

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## WHERE CAN I FIND MORE INFORMATION ON ELDS, SUCH AS THE TECHNICAL STANDARD OR MORE FAQs?

For more information on ELDs, please visit the [Canadian Council of Motor Transport Administrators](#) and view the following:  
[Technical Standard for Electronic Logging Devices](#)  
[Canadian ELD Technical Standard - FAQ](#)

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## EXEMPTIONS

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Yes, exemptions have been issued in the NWT. Additionally, any exemption that is given [through the Federal Act](#) will be added to NWT regulations.

The following DO NOT need an ELD:

- If you operate within 160 km of your home terminal (and return each day to that home terminal) you are not required to complete a Record of Duty Status, and therefore don't require an ELD. Carriers/owners must keep track of driver hours while working within the 160 km radius. If you drive outside of the 160 km at any time, you will require an ELD. \*If the 160 km radius takes you outside of the NWT, Federal Legislation applies and you will require an ELD.
- School buses will not have to have an ELD but will be required to use paper logs when the vehicle exits it's 160km zone.
- National Safety Code vehicles, including pickups and pickups with trailers, under 11,794 kgs and driven exclusively within the NWT are exempt. A paper log is required in this instance.
- Emergency vehicles are exempt (police, ambulance, firetrucks, etc.).
- Utility service vehicles are exempt (power companies, telecommunication companies, etc.).
- Recreation vehicles are for personal use and exempted from ELD.

For more information, please contact  
[Commercial\\_Permit\\_Support@gov.nt.ca](mailto:Commercial_Permit_Support@gov.nt.ca).

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## ARE THERE EXEMPTIONS TO USING AN ELD?

WHAT IS AN EXEMPTION PERMIT AND WHEN WOULD SOMEONE NEED ONE?

Exemption permits are available to purchase for NWT drivers. The permit can only be for roundtrip use within the NWT (origin to destination and back to origin) and is valid for three days. Drivers must still produce paper logs when traveling outside the exemption zone..

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WHERE CAN YOU PURCHASE AN EXEMPTION PERMIT AND HOW MANY PERMITS CAN YOU PURCHASE PER YEAR?

Permits are available online at, [www.idmv.ca](http://www.idmv.ca). There is no limit for permits per year.

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HOW MUCH ARE EXEMPTION PERMITS?

The cost for an exemption permit is \$38.00.

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IF A DRIVER NORMALLY OPERATES WITHIN 160 KM OF THEIR HOMEBASE AND UNDER 11,794 KG, BUT DO A ONE-DAY JOB OUTSIDE 160KM AND LOAD OVER 11,794 KG, ARE THEY STILL COVERED BY THE 160 KM EXEMPTION?

No, the driver must purchase an exemption permit if they have an NWT plate.