

ELECTRONIC LOGGING DEVICE (ELD)

Helpful information to assist you in choosing a system right for your requirements

An Electronic Logging Device (ELD) is an electronic device designed to comply with FMCSA’s criteria to accurately record a drivers driving time for Hours of Service compliance. The International Registration Plan (IRP) and the International Fuel Tax Agreement (IFTA) each allow the use of electronic devices to document vehicle distance by jurisdiction provided the required supporting data are maintained for audit purposes.

The purchase of an ELD does not necessarily mean it will be compliant for IFTA and IRP purposes or vice versa. Beware of vendors stating that their systems are IFTA or IRP certified. There is no such certification. See the chart below for some of the key differences and similarities between an ELD and a compliant IFTA/IRP electronic records device.

DISTANCE DATA Collection Elements	Electronic Logging Device (ELD) For Reporting Hours of Service	Electronic Logging Device (ELD) IFTA / IRP Compliant
Original GPS or other location data for the vehicle to which the records pertain	Required	Required
Frequency of GPS Readings, date & time stamps, and distance recording requirements.	Location readings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Every 60 minutes • Every change of duty status • Engine on/Off at a precision of one mile when On-Duty and 10 miles when Off-Duty 	Date and time of each GPS or other system reading: At intervals sufficient to validate the total distance traveled in each jurisdiction. <i>This is dependent on the carrier operation and could mean a location reading every 15 minutes or less.</i>
Location of each GPS or other system reading	Not Required	Required
Calculated distance between each GPS or other system reading	Not Required	Required
Routes of Travel by Unit	Not Required	Required
Beginning and ending reading from the odometer, hubodometer, engine control module, or similar device	Required	Required
Engine Hours	Required	Not Required
Total Trip Distance by Unit	Not Required	Required
Distance By Unit Each 24 Hour Period	Required	Not Required
Distance by Jurisdiction by Unit	Not Required	Required
Unit Number (ID)	Power Unit and Trailer	Power Unit Only
Registrant's (Company) Name	Required	Required
Driver Name/ID	Required	Not Required
Carrier Responsibilities		
Retain all data for audit purposes	6 months	IFTA: 4 years – IRP: up to 6.5 years
Minimum Device Requirements		
Certification that the device meets the requirements.	Carrier must select self-certified devices from the FMCSA website.	Carrier responsibility to select a device that meets IFTA/IRP requirements. IFTA/IRP DO NOT certify devices/systems.
Reporting Requirements		
A monthly summary of the fleet’s operations that includes distance traveled during a quarter, in total, by vehicle, and by jurisdiction	Not Required. <i>Reporting is by Driver, not unit or fleet</i>	Must be provided upon due notice
Differentiate distance recording a ccuracy between personal vehicle use and commercial use	Required	No distinction; <u>all travel</u> must be documented.
Report driver hours of service violations	Required	Not Required

Maine Motor Carrier Services – <https://www.maine.gov/sos/bmv/commercial>

The Maine Motor Carrier Manual is under Helpful Links, Information & Publications. The Manual includes recordkeeping requirements and an example of an Individual Vehicle Distance Report (IVDR).

International Fuel Tax Agreement (IFTA) – <https://www.iftach.org>

International Registration Plan (IRP) – <https://irponline.org>