

PERSONAL CONVEYANCE IN CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES



Personal Conveyance (PC) is a recognized Hours of Service (HOS) provision that allows commercial drivers to move a commercial motor vehicle (CMV) while off duty for personal, non-work-related reasons. Although Canada and the United States share the same general intent regarding PC, the regulatory requirements differ between the two jurisdictions. Understanding these differences supports compliance and helps prevent misuse that could result in violations, penalties, or enforcement action.

Key Differences Between Canada and the United States

Feature	Canada	United States (FMCSA)
Distance Limit	Limited to a maximum of 75 km (46.6 miles) per 24-hour period.	No specific federal distance or time limit.
Vehicle Load	Vehicle must be unladen and trailers unhitched.	Vehicle may be laden, provided the movement does not provide a commercial benefit to the motor carrier.
ELD Behavior	ELDs must automatically transition to "Driving" once the 75 km limit is reached.	ELDs generally prompt the driver to confirm status; automatic enforcement is not federally mandated.
Logging Requirements	Drivers must record starting and ending odometer readings.	Drivers should annotate the reason for PC use in the ELD remarks section.

WHAT IS PERSONAL CONVEYANCE?

Personal Conveyance is the movement of a commercial motor vehicle while the driver is off duty, and the travel does not provide a commercial or operational benefit to the motor carrier. During PC, the vehicle is operated in a manner comparable to a personal vehicle.

Although a separate pre-trip inspection is not specifically required solely because PC is being used, a valid daily inspection must have been completed within the preceding 24 hours, in accordance with applicable regulations.



EXAMPLES GENERALLY ACCEPTED IN BOTH COUNTRIES

- Driving from a shipper or receiver to the nearest safe and reasonable resting location
- Traveling from lodging to obtain food or attending personal errands
- Commuting between home and the driver's normal reporting location (when permitted by company policy)
- Moving the vehicle at the direction of law enforcement

Drivers must select **Off Duty – Personal Conveyance** in the ELD prior to moving the vehicle.

WHEN PERSONAL CONVEYANCE IS NOT PERMITTED

Personal Conveyance must not be used if the movement supports company operations or advances the driver's work responsibilities.

PROHIBITED USES IN BOTH CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES INCLUDE:

- Driving closer to the next pickup or delivery location
- Repositioning equipment or returning an empty trailer for operational purposes
- Traveling to a terminal, maintenance facility, or customer location for work-related reasons
- Searching for parking beyond the nearest safe and reasonable option
- Moving the vehicle in a manner that advances the load or benefits the carrier

If the movement provides any operational or commercial benefit to the motor carrier, it must be logged as On Duty – Driving.

COMPLIANCE CONSIDERATIONS

Personal Conveyance is a regulatory allowance that provides flexibility when used appropriately. However, improper use may result in HOS violations, roadside enforcement action, or audit findings.

When determining whether PC applies, drivers and supervisors should evaluate whether the movement benefits the motor carrier. If the movement benefits the motor carrier in any way, it does not qualify as Personal Conveyance. Maintaining awareness of regulatory differences between Canada and the United States helps ensure cross-border compliance and reduces exposure to enforcement risk.

Knowledge Verification

Please answer, and forward a completed copy to your Safety Department/Safety Representative.

1. Personal Conveyance can only be used when the driver is off duty. True False
2. A driver may use Personal Conveyance to move closer to their next pickup if they are out of hours. True False
3. Personal Conveyance can be used to return an empty trailer to a terminal for operational purposes. True False
4. Searching for better parking beyond the nearest safe and reasonable location is acceptable under PC. True False

Driver's Name:

Driver's Signature:

Witness Name:

Date: