

FAST Commercial Driver Program

Participant's Guide



Government
of Canada

Gouvernement
du Canada



United States
of America

La version française de cette publication est intitulée
*Programme EXPRES pour les chauffeurs du secteur
commercial – Guide du participant.*

Table of contents

	Page
Introduction	4
FAST terms and conditions	5
Change of information	6
Lost/Stolen or Damaged/Defective Cards.....	6
Penalties.....	6
Crossing the border	7
Entering the United States with goods to declare	7
Entering Canada with goods to declare.....	7
Importing restrictions for Canada and the United States for personal use goods.....	8
FAST Procedures at Port of Entry	9
Need more Information?	10

Introduction

In this guide, you will find information about the FAST Commercial Driver Program.

As an approved participant of this program, you will receive:

- this participant's guide;
- a FAST Commercial Driver card with photo identification;
- for U.S. residents, a copy of the Canada Customs and Revenue Agency (CCRA) pamphlet called *Customs Information for Visitors to Canada and Seasonal Residents*, and the U.S. Customs Service (USCS) publication called, *Know Before You Go*;
- for Canadian residents, a copy of the CCRA pamphlet called *I Declare*, and the USCS publication called *Visiting the United States*; and,
- information on U.S. and Canada immigration rules related to cabotage.

FAST terms and conditions

Once you are approved for the FAST Commercial Driver Program you must:

- comply with all customs and immigration laws, and any other laws that are enforced by Citizenship and Immigration Canada (CIC), the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service (USINS), the CCRA, and the USCS;
- carry at all times and show when requested your FAST Commercial Driver card, and necessary personal identification including any immigration documents.;
- make sure everyone in your vehicle has a valid FAST Commercial Driver card before you reach the border. If any of the passengers in your vehicle are not carrying their FAST Commercial Driver card or you have passengers in your vehicle who are not FAST Commercial Driver participants, you must use the regular service lanes;
- not transfer your FAST Commercial Driver card to another individual;
- not violate the immigration regulations of the United States or Canada concerning “Cabotage” – or “point to point” movement of commercial shipments.

When you are no longer a participant in the FAST Commercial Driver Program you must:

- return the FAST Commercial Driver card to any customs or immigration office in Canada or the United States; and
- return unused *Traveller Declaration Cards* to any customs or immigration office in Canada.

Note

The FAST Commercial Driver card is not a travel document. Your authorized period of admission to the U.S. or Canada will depend on your underlying immigration status for each country or your citizenship in that country. Your immigration status and citizenship must be valid at all times, and you must possess appropriate immigration and identity documents in addition to your FAST Commercial Driver card.

Change of information

You must notify immediately in writing, to FAST processing centres in Canada and the United States if the information you provided in your application changes in any way.

Lost/Stolen or Damaged/Defective Cards

You must notify the processing centre in Canada at once if your card has been lost or stolen:

- If your card has been lost, stolen or damaged, you must pay the program fee to be re-issued a card.
- Defective cards will be replaced free of charge.

The addresses for the FAST processing centres can be found at the back of this guide.

Penalties

Customs and immigration officers will strictly enforce the law. Any time you enter Canada or the United States you are subject to compliance and enforcement checks. If you are found in violation of any condition of the FAST program, or of any law of Canada or the U.S., officers may:

- revoke your FAST Commercial Driver card. If your card is revoked, you must wait **90 days** before you can re-apply to the FAST Commercial Driver Program;

- seize any undeclared goods and the vehicle you used to transport those goods;
- issue penalties;
- initiate administrative procedures; and,
- initiate criminal prosecution.

Crossing the border

As a FAST Commercial Driver participant, you must declare all goods you are importing whenever you cross the border into the U.S. or Canada.

Entering the United States with goods to declare

If you are entering the U.S. and are importing goods for your personal use, you must make an oral declaration to the officer in the booth. For more information, U.S. residents should refer to the U.S. pamphlet called *Know Before You Go* and Canadian residents visiting the U.S. should see the publication called *Visiting the United States*.

If you are entering the U.S. and have goods to declare in excess of your personal exemption, you must use the regular lane.

Entering Canada with goods to declare

If you are entering Canada and are importing goods for your personal use that do not exceed your personal exemption, you must make a verbal declaration to the officer in the booth. For more information about importing goods into Canada, Canadian residents should see the CCRA pamphlet called *I Declare* and U.S. residents should see the pamphlet called *Customs Information for Visitors to Canada and Seasonal Residents*.

If you are entering Canada and have goods to declare in excess of your personal exemption, you must use the regular lane.

Note

Canadian residents have the option of obtaining *Traveller Declaration Cards* (TDCs) that can be presented any time you cross into Canada using the FAST lane. The card must be completed before arriving in Canada. When you arrive, hand your TDC to the officer in the booth. If you exceed your personal exemption, the duties and tax owing will be charged to your credit card.

Importing restrictions for Canada and the United States for personal use goods

- You must not import controlled, restricted, or prohibited firearms or weapons, including mace, pepper spray, and stun guns;
- You must not import controlled, restricted, or prohibited goods, animals, or plants. This includes controlled, restricted, or prohibited substances, endangered animals and species, and restricted fruits and vegetables. For more information, see the CCRA pamphlets *I Declare* and *Information for Visitors to Canada and Seasonal Residents*, and the USCS publications *Know Before You Go* and *Visiting the United States*;
- If you bring or carry more than US \$10,000 in currency and monetary instruments into or out of the U.S., you must use the regular lane and make a declaration to U.S. Customs.

FAST Procedures at Port of Entry

FAST clearance can only be used if everyone in the vehicle is in possession of a valid FAST commercial driver card and transporting eligible goods for a FAST approved carrier and importer. The following procedures apply:

1. When you enter Canada or the United States where there is a dedicated FAST lane, stop and hold your FAST Commercial Driver card(s) in front of the card reader (where available) and then stop at the inspection booth to complete the inspection process.
2. For border locations without a dedicated FAST lane, present your FAST Commercial Driver card(s) to the officer in the booth.

Need more Information?

If you want to know more about the FAST Commercial Driver Program, please contact the FAST Commercial Driver Program processing centre at:

4551 Zimmerman Avenue
P.O. Box 66
Niagara Falls, ON L2E 6T1
CANADA

FAST Processing Center
U.S. Customs Service
50 South Main St., Suite 100R
St. Albans, VT. 05478
U. S. A.

Or at our Web sites:

www.ccra-adrc.gc.ca

www.Customs.gov