

## In This Quarter's Newsletter



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## What is IRP?

The International Registration Plan (IRP) is a registration reciprocity agreement among jurisdictions of the United States, the District of Columbia and provinces of Canada providing for payment of apportionable fees on the basis of total distance operated in all jurisdictions. IRP's fundamental principle is to promote and encourage the fullest possible use of the highway system.



## Drivers

### 7 Summer Driving Tips for Truck Drivers

Ready or not, summer is just a few weeks away and that means truck drivers need to make a few adjustments. Here are a few tips for driving safely this summer.

[Learn more](#)

### How to Stay Healthy as a Truck Driver: 10 Key Tips to Follow

Being a truck driver can create a demanding lifestyle, with constant travel, a cramped living space, long periods away from home and being seated most of the day. This creates unique challenges when trying to figure out how to be healthy as a truck driver.

Though it may seem difficult for truck drivers to stay in shape, making some simple changes to your day-to-day routine can have a huge impact. Follow these 10 tips on how to stay healthy as a truck driver to get started.

[Learn more](#)



## Infrastructure Projects and Route Changes in the District of Columbia, Maryland and Virginia (DMV) Area

### Francis Scott Key Bridge Replacement

After the collapse of the Francis Scott Key Bridge in Baltimore on March 26, 2024, due to a container ship collision, plans for a new bridge have been unveiled. The replacement will be a modern cable-stayed structure with enhanced protections against ship strikes. Preconstruction activities, including

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topographic and underwater surveys, began in January 2025, with demolition of the existing structure expected in the spring. The new bridge is projected to be completed by October 2028, at an estimated cost of \$1.7 billion.

[Learn more](#)

## American Legion Bridge Expansion

Plans are underway to replace and expand the American Legion Memorial Bridge, which carries the Capital Beltway (I-495) over the Potomac River between Virginia and Maryland. The project aims to increase capacity from eight to twelve lanes, addressing congestion and improving safety—a significant consideration for commercial trucking operations. Environmental impact statements and planning are ongoing, with construction timelines to be determined.

[Learn more](#)

## I-81 Expansion in Maryland

Interstate 81 in Maryland is undergoing expansion to address heavy congestion due to its dual role as a commuter route and major trucking corridor. Phase 1, which included rebuilding dual bridges over the Potomac River to accommodate six lanes, was completed in 2023. Phase 2, set to begin construction in 2025, includes widening the interstate to six lanes from Exit 1 to Exit 5, along with intersection improvements and bridge replacements.

These projects are poised to significantly impact traffic patterns, congestion levels, and route planning for truckers operating in the DMV area. Staying informed about construction schedules and alternative routes will be essential for efficient and safe operations.

[Learn more](#)



**The District of Columbia, like other IRP jurisdictions, is required to conduct vehicle audits to verify information about distance apportioned in each jurisdiction.**

As a vehicle owner applying for registration under the IRP, you need to keep your records for at least three years after the registration year ends. These records should support the information you provided when applying for registration. If requested, you must be able to provide these records for an audit.

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