**Using this Template**

The following template can be used to help your organization develop a written Fleet Safety Program. This template **cannot** be used as is – you must customize the template to meet the needs of your organization. We have made this template easy for you to customize by adding visual prompts that identify where your input is needed. These are identified by a yellow highlighted text in the template. You may also change any of the text in the template to meet your organization’s needs.

*Example:*

<COMPANY NAME>

Fleet Safety Program

becomes

XYZ Company

Fleet Safety Program

To remove the colored highlighting from your text, left click and drag your mouse over the yellow text and click on the highlighter button from the font menu.



Add/remove highlighter

To aid you in understanding the need to customize your program, several “Check Your Understanding” text boxes are also included throughout the template. After reading the information in the text box and adding the required information into the template, you may simply click on the outside edge of text box and click “Delete” on your keyboard to remove it.

***Disclaimer.*** *This sample safety program template cannot be used as is. You must customize the template to meet the needs of your organization. EMC does not guarantee that this template is or can be relied on for compliance with any law or regulation, assurance against preventable losses, or freedom from legal liability. EMC will not be liable for your use of the template as customized by you. All safety programs and policies, including this template and the information you supply to complete it, should be reviewed by your legal counsel and/or risk management staff.*

**<COMPANY NAME>**

**Fleet Safety Program**

***Check Your Understanding.*** Many organizations use vehicles to conduct their daily business. Whether you operate a delivery company where driving is a major part of your daily activities, or you are a contractor where vehicles are used only to transport tools and employees to worksites, it is critical that a fleet safety program is included in your overall safety program. A comprehensive fleet safety program not only reduces the risk of injuries and fatalities to your employees and the rest of the driving public, but also provides the following additional potential benefits:

* Improved driver safety and morale
* Reduced property damage
* Reduced insurance premiums
* Reduced accident frequency and associated vehicle repair costs
* Increased resale value of vehicles
* Improved community safety
* Reduced driver downtime, sick pay, and turnover
* Enhanced overall organizational image

For additional information regarding the development of a fleet safety program, [click here – Fleet Safety LPIM](http://www.emcins.com/guest/default.asp?Category=aweb&Service=LPIM-PDFSpeedbump&Topic=0020).

**Purpose**

The operation of motor vehicles is a necessary part of <Company Name> business. The operation of motor vehicles exposes our company to the risk of loss – through injury to employees or the general public, damage to property and to our company’s overall reputation. Therefore, as a part of management’s commitment to operate all aspects of the business in a safe and responsible manner, we have created the following Fleet Safety Program.

The purpose of this Fleet Safety Program is to detail the policies and procedures <Company Name> takes to minimize the frequency and severity of vehicle accidents. All employees are required to follow the procedures outlined in this program. Any deviations from this program must be immediately brought to the attention of the Fleet Safety Program Administrator.

**Scope**

This policy applies to:

* All drivers of company-owned, leased, rented or borrowed vehicles
* All drivers of non-owned company vehicles while being operated on company business

The Fleet Safety Program Administrator is responsible for the program’s implementation, management and recordkeeping requirements.

**Program Responsibilities**

**Management.** The management of <Company Name> is committed to the Fleet Safety Program. Management supports the efforts of the Fleet Safety Program Administrator by pledging financial and leadership support towards the identification and control of hazards related to motor vehicle operation.

**Fleet Safety Program Administrator.** The Program Administrator reports directly to upper management and is responsible for this program. All driver selection, vehicle maintenance, training and other program components will be coordinated under the direction of the Program Administrator in collaboration with management. The Program Administrator monitors the results of the program to determine needed modifications or additional areas of focus. The Program Administrator also performs the following duties:

* Evaluates applicants to determine if they are eligible to drive our vehicles or other vehicles on company business
* Authorizes those persons who are allowed to operate vehicles
* Ensures vehicles are maintained in safe condition
* Develops and enforces fleet safety rules and policies
* Investigates all vehicle accidents and recommends any necessary corrective actions
* Coordinates driver training programs
* Annually, reviews this written program and makes any changes needed. Documents the annual review on the proper forms, found in **Appendix A**, and submits the report to upper management

**Employees.** Every employee of <Company Name> is responsible for conducting himself/herself in accordance with this program. Employee involvement is an essential element to the success of our fleet safety efforts. Employees may be solicited for their input regarding vehicle selection, safety features, training programs and other topics related to this program.

**Driver Selection**

<Company Name> will check the driving history of all applicants through the use of a Motor Vehicle Record (MVR) before they are granted driving privileges, and obtain an updated MVR for all approved drivers annually thereafter. MVRs will also be checked whenever an employee is involved in a motor vehicle accident. A driver list is maintained and updated annually, including the last date of an MVR for each driver. The approved drivers list will be recorded on the proper form found in **Appendix B** and maintained by the Program Administrator.

Employees will be prohibited from operating vehicles on company business under any of the following conditions:

* Employee does not have a valid driver’s license, or the license has been suspended or revoked
* Employee does not have at least one year of verifiable driving experience. <*Delete if not applicable*> If the cargo includes large volumes of hazardous materials (i.e., petroleum or chemical tankers), at least five years experience is required
* Employee’s MVR indicates more than two at-fault accidents, three moving violations, or two moving violations and one at-fault accident in the past three years
* Employee’s MVR indicates any one of the following major violations within the past five years;
* Driving under the influence
* Reckless driving/speed contests
* Hit and run
* Vehicular manslaughter/homicide
* Leaving the scene of an accident
* Fleeing/eluding a police officer
* Passing a stopped school bus
* Speeding 15 or more miles over the speed limit
* Refusing a chemical test
* Operating with a suspended or revoked license
* Employee has tested positive in an alcohol or drug test while in our employment
* <enter any additional driver selection criteria used by your organization>

**Authorized Vehicle Use**

The Program Administrator determines who is authorized to operate vehicles on company business. No employee or non-employee (for example, the use of a company vehicle by an employee’s spouse or child) is allowed to operate a company vehicle, or their own vehicle on company business, unless the Program Administrator has authorized that person to drive. Before any non-employee is permitted to use a company vehicle, he or she must meet the same qualifications as those for employees. Use of company vehicles by employees and non-employees under the age of 18 is prohibited.

**Vehicle Maintenance**

To extend the useful life of vehicles, regular inspections and maintenance will be completed on all company owned and operated vehicles per the manufacturer’s recommendations. If during an inspection any of the items found “not ok” the vehicle will be removed from service until it can be repaired or replaced. All problems must be promptly reported to the Program Administrator. Each driver will inspect their vehicle before each use. The inspection will consist of all items listed in the Vehicle Self-Inspection Report (Report form located in **Appendix C**). All vehicle Self-Inspection Reports will be submitted to the Program Administrator within one business day.

In states that require emissions testing, all vehicles will comply with the state’s requirements.

**Driver Safety Rules**

All motor vehicle operators must obey all state laws and posted signs when operating vehicles. In addition, the following rules must be followed at all times.

**Cell Phones and Other Distractions.** The use of handheld or hands-free cell phones, or other devices that take attention away from the driving task, are prohibited by those driving company vehicles. Passengers may use devices only if the use will not be distracting to the driver. Cell phone calls should be made prior to or at the completion of a trip. If a call must be made during a trip, drivers must pull into a safe location and stop before making the call. If the driver receives an incoming call while driving, they must allow the call to go to voicemail and return the call when stopped in a safe location. Eating while driving is prohibited. Non-alcoholic drinks may be consumed with great discretion and only in situations where driving hazards (i.e., traffic, road construction, etc.) are minimal.

**Seat Belts.** Seat belts must be properly worn by all drivers and passengers while the vehicle is in operation. Children being transported in a company vehicle must remain properly secured in a child safety seat or booster seat according to state law.

**Fatigued Driving & Driving Under The Influence.** Drivers will not operate a motor vehicle at any time when his/her ability is impaired, affected or influenced by alcohol, illegal drugs, medication, illness, fatigue or injury.

**Severe Weather.** Extreme caution must be exercised when driving in severe weather conditions. If a driver has any doubt about the safety of travel, they must contact their supervisor or the Program Administrator for guidance.

**Radar Detectors.** The use of radar detectors or any other device with the purpose of detecting or interfering with police radar is prohibited.

**Glass:** Damaged glass should be reported immediately to the Program Administrator. To reduce windshield damage drivers will:

* Keep a safe distance between vehicles, especially on gravel roads
* Use clean, greaseless, dry cloths to wipe the windshield
* Replace worn wiper blades as soon as they begin to streak
* Use plastic or rubber ice scrapers, never metal

**Towing.** Only vehicles specifically approved for towing by the Program Administrator may be used to tow trailers of any size or type.

<Enter any additional driver safety rules used by your organization>

**Traffic Violations And Citations**

Drivers are responsible for all citations received. Traffic citations must be reported to the Program Administrator as soon as possible. The Program Administrator will review the driving privileges of any employee charged with a serious offense. Disciplinary action may include warnings, probation or suspension of driving privileges. For those jobs that require operation of a company vehicle, loss of driving privileges may result in termination.

**Vehicle Accident Investigation.** Vehicle accident investigations are handled internally, and may utilize external documents such as police reports. Vehicle accident reports are to be filled out by the driver and returned to the Program Administrator as soon as reasonably possible. The Program Administrator will determine accident preventability and the proper course of any disciplinary action that might be necessary. The Program Administrator will also determine if additional training is needed to prevent similar accidents from occurring in the future. Trends in accident types, or multiple accidents by the same driver, will receive additional scrutiny, as they may signal the need for additional training or changes to driver selection procedures.

If you are involved in an accident, perform the following steps:

* Stop your vehicle and protect the scene. You do not want a secondary accident to occur.
* Call for medical assistance and assist any injured people if necessary.
* Call the police and the Program Administrator or supervisor as soon as possible.
* Locate any witnesses and get important information from them. If possible get names, addresses and phone numbers.
* Exchange pertinent information with other drivers.
* Take photos of the accident.
* Fill out a vehicle accident report form and send it to the Program Administrator (Vehicle Accident Report forms are located in **Appendix D**).

When in an accident, drivers must:

* Never admit fault or apologize. Apologies could be interpreted as an admission of fault.
* Never argue with other drivers or witnesses.
* Never argue with the police.
* Never make a statement to the media. Refer them to the Program Administrator.
* Never discuss details of the incident with anyone except a representative of <Company Name> or the police.
* Report every accident no matter how small to the Program Administrator.

Vehicle Accident Report forms must be kept in each company vehicle for use after an accident. If the vehicle you are driving does not have a Vehicle Accident Report form in it, contact the Program Administrator.

***Check Your Understanding.***Did you know that EMC provides free vehicle accident report forms on the Loss Control section of their website, [www.emcins.com](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Ckathleen-w%5CDesktop%5Cwww.emcins.com)?

Click the links below.

* [Accident Report Forms](http://www.emcins.com/Docs/OFILib/AA050000834_20090217.PDF)
* [Accident Report Forms California](http://www.emcins.com/Docs/OFILib/AA050000762_20100506.PDF)

**Driver Training.** Upon initial assignment of driving privileges, each driver will be required to attend a training session that outlines the rules and procedures outlined in our Fleet Safety Program. On-going training will be offered to all drivers, at least annually, to ensure they are kept up-to-date with defensive driving techniques and changes to the policies and program. Driver ride-a-longs may also be conducted upon initial hire and periodically thereafter as deemed appropriate by the Program Administrator. Training and retraining will be documented the Program Administrator (Training Record/Certification forms are located in **Appendix E**).

***Check Your Understanding.*** Did you know that EMC provides many free website based services to assist you in your driver training efforts? Here are just a few examples.

* Safety Talks. These one-page handouts can be used for your next safety meeting, as a payroll stuffer, or as a posting on a bulletin board. We have several hundred on driver safety, and more than 1,000 on additional safety topics.
* Online Training. Train your employees when it’s convenient for you with these self-directed online programs. Two programs are available – Defensive Driving and Backing and Parking. You can also register for the Training Management System, which tracks your organization’s training records.
* Safety Videos. Check out a training video from our library of nearly 500 titles, including more than 50 on the driver safety topic.
* Safety Signs and Posters. Order driver safety signs and posters from our website, or download them as high-resolution PDFs for immediate printing.
* Safe Driver Award Program. Reward safe drivers who are not involved in preventable accidents with this program, which provides certificates and congratulatory gifts at specified safe driving anniversaries.

Need something more specific? Contact us at losscontrol@emcins.com and one of our Risk Improvement Representatives will contact you with further information.

Periodic Program Review

**Periodic Program Review**

At least annually, the Program Administrator will conduct a program review to assess the progress and success of the Fleet Safety Program. The review will consider the following:

* Evaluation of all training programs and records
* The frequency and severity of vehicle accidents during the previous year
* The need for changes to the Fleet Safety Program based on evaluation of the program and the results
* The need for changes to the driver selection/disqualification criteria

**Record Retention**

All records will be retained for XX years.

**Revision History**

<Revision XX – March 2012>

**Appendix A – Annual Evaluation Report**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Date of Evaluation: | Evaluated by (list all present): |
| Written Program Reviewed: Yes No |
| Comments on Written Program: |
| Do vehicle accident records indicate a need for additional employee training on the program? Yes No |
| The following content was added/modified/removed from the written program: |
| Comments: |

**Appendix B – Driver List**

Those listed below have been authorized to operate motor vehicles on company business and have received instruction regarding <Company Name> Fleet Safety Program.

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| Employee Name | Date of Last MVR Check |
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**Appendix C – Vehicle Self-Inspection Report**

**Appendix D – Vehicle Accident Report**





**Appendix E – Training Record/Certification for Fleet Safety Program**

This is to certify that the undersigned received training in accordance with the <Company Name>’s Fleet Safety Program.

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| Print Instructor’s Name |  |
| Instructors Signature |  |
| Instructor’s Title |  |
| Date of Training |  |