

8 Steps to ELD Migration Success

Whether you're a carrier looking to comply with the Canadian Electronic Logging Device (ELD) Mandate that went into effect on June 12, 2021, or you're looking to switch to a different ELD to remain in compliance with the U.S. ELD Mandate, there are 8 important steps to keep in mind to ensure you're on the best road to compliance.

1

Get familiar with ELD functionalities

ELDs track additional fleet, truck, and driver information to create visibility with law enforcement and prevent fraudulent reporting. Carriers are expected to provide additional details about their fleet and drivers to law enforcement during compliance checks.

2

Understand operational implications

Research how the ELD requirements will affect your fleet's operations. The types of changes to prepare for include:

- Automatic duty statuses: rules, thresholds, and requirements
- Driver and vehicle setup
- Fleet audits and reporting
- Carrier and driver log edits
- Unassigned vehicle activity (identification and reconciliation)

3

Develop an implementation plan and timeline

Introducing any new application to your fleet is challenging. Since an ELD implementation will affect many different roles and departments, it's important to have a solid plan in place with detailed timelines, areas of responsibility from start to finish, and regular meetings scheduled to check on overall progress.

4

Find the right solution

It's important you find a solution that's a fit for how your drivers and company operate. When researching, aim to look for credible vendors with ample industry experience.

5

Develop guidelines and training

Before you begin training your teams on the operational changes that ELDs require, it's a good idea to take a moment to set some standards early on, including guidance for consistent annotation and reporting processes, to help ensure a smooth transition.

Once installed, you should provide your drivers with training on how to use the device. Every driver using an ELD should know how to expertly handle the ELD and do things like log in, access Record of Duty Status data, and report ELD malfunctions. There should also be a plan to train the fleet support staff on the types of changes to expect with your ELD.

6

Get a testing and pilot program in place

Before rolling out ELDs to the entire fleet, it's always a good idea to test a solution with a smaller group to resolve any issues. This group should represent a cross-section of the larger audience to ensure the solution is vetted at every level.

7

Learn the implications of non-compliance

After the Canadian deadline, if a non-exempt driver is found without an ELD, fines may be issued to the carrier. In some cases, the truck may be required to be taken off the road. There are also various violations that apply for U.S. drivers.

8

Understand data storage requirements have not changed

Unlike previous rule makings, the Canadian ELD Mandate and U.S. ELD Mandate define how your fleet stores Hours of Service (HOS) data and for how long. You must retain ELD data and backup data for six months, and you must ensure secure storage of all data and backups to protect driver privacy.