

# motorcarrier.ai

## New Carrier Startup Checklist

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### Business Formation

- Choose entity type (LLC/Corp) and file formation documents
  - Obtain Employer Identification Number (EIN) from IRS
  - Open a dedicated business bank account
  - Set up a business phone number and professional email

### FMCSA Filings

- Apply for USDOT Number
  - File MC Operating Authority (OP-1)
    - Designate a process agent via BOC-3
    - Complete Unified Carrier Registration (UCR)

### Insurance

- Bind primary liability coverage (\$750k minimum)
  - Add cargo insurance to match freight type
  - Consider physical damage coverage for equipment
  - Secure workers' compensation or occupational accident policy

### Equipment

- Purchase or lease a truck/tractor suited to freight plan
  - Install compliant ELD device and telematics
  - Apply USDOT/MC markings and company info to the truck

### Compliance

- Join a drug & alcohol testing consortium (Part 382)
  - Create driver qualification file templates
  - Document a preventative maintenance plan
  - Register for IFTA fuel tax
    - Register vehicles under IRP apportioned plates

### Operations

- Secure access to reputable load boards or brokers
  - Set up a factoring or

quick-pay solution

- Choose accounting/  
bookkeeping  
software
- Apply for fleet  
fuel cards with  
tiered discounts