

ENTRY LEVEL DRIVER TRAINING

NAVIGATING THE ELDT REQUIREMENTS



On February 7, 2022, new Entry-Level Driver Training (ELDT) regulations were placed in effect to set the minimum Federal requirements for training that entry-level drivers must complete before being permitted to take certain commercial driver's license (CDL) skills or knowledge tests.

WHO IS AN AFFECTED ENTRY-LEVEL DRIVER?

Entry level drivers include individuals applying to:

- Obtain a Class A CDL or Class B CDL for the first time
- Upgrade an existing Class B CDL to a Class A CDL
- Obtain a school bus (S), passenger (P), or hazardous materials (H) endorsement for the first time

If a driver was issued a CDL or an S, P, or H endorsement prior to February 7, 2022, or is not required under 49 CFR part 383 to have a CDL, the driver is NOT required to complete entry-level driver training.

WHAT ARE THE ELDT REQUIREMENTS?

ELDT drivers will be required to complete mandatory and structured Theory Training and Behind-The-Wheel (BTW) Training provided by registered training providers, prior to becoming eligible to take the CDL skills or knowledge tests.

Registered training providers will provide FMSCA with training certification(s) to indicate that a driver has successfully completed training. The training certifications will be uploaded into the new Training Provider Registry and States will verify the information before issuing a new CDL, CDL upgrade or S, P, or H endorsement.

THEORY TRAINING

- No required minimum instruction hours
- Student must earn a minimum overall score of 80% on the theory assessment(s)
- Training delivered through lectures, demonstrations, computer-based instruction, online training, or other similar means
- A simulator may be used
- Must cover specific topics including basic operation, safe operating procedures, advanced operating practices, vehicle systems and reporting malfunctions, non-driving activities

BEHIND-THE-WHEEL (BTW) TRAINING

- No required minimum instruction hours
- Training includes actual control of the commercial motor vehicle on a range or public road
- A simulator may not be used
- Must cover exercises related to basic vehicle control skills and mastery of basic maneuvers

HOW DO I LOCATE A REGISTERED TRAINING PROVIDER?

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) maintains a Training Provider Registry of all registered and approved training providers. A training provider is any entity that provides ELDT as defined by 49 CFR 380.605. Only training providers listed in the Training Provider Registry can perform the required theory and behind-the-wheel training and submit training certifications to the FMCSA. Registered training providers can choose whether they offer training to the general public or not. The Registry can be found at <https://tpr.fmcsa.dot.gov/Search>



REGISTERING TO BE A TRAINING PROVIDER

If your company plans to train entry-level commercial drivers, you must register and be listed on the Training Provider Registry, even if you are not choosing to train the general public.

To start the process, a company needs to choose a company representative who will register the company with FMCSA. This person will become the company administrator on the Training Provider Registry website and the point of contact for notifications. After approved, the company representative can invite others to work in the Training Provider Registry with them on behalf of the training provider. The company representative will complete the online registration form to self-certify that the company meets all the requirements as listed in 49 CFR part 380 subparts F & G to be a Training Provider. This includes meeting the minimum standards for curricula, instructors, facilities, vehicles, state licensing, assessments, documentation, and FMCSA audits.

The FMCSA has no role in certifying training instructors. The regulations establish a minimum qualification standard for instructors (theory and BTW), which includes meeting all applicable State qualifications for commercial motor vehicle instructors. It is up to the training provider to determine whether its instructors meet these minimum standards.

A training provider will also need to decide how it will submit training certification records to FMCSA - either manually on the Training Provider Registry website or by setting up an interface to the TPR website.

Once accepted, your company will be listed on the Training Provider Registry. If you do not intend to train the general public, you can choose to keep certain portions of your profile private. As a training provider, you can also choose to offer Theory Training, Behind-the-Wheel Training, or both.



LEARN MORE AT:

<https://tpr.fmcsa.dot.gov>

*or scan the
code using the
camera on
your
smartphone*

