



ENTRY-LEVEL DRIVER TRAINING (ELDT) Effective February 7, 2022

The new [federal regulation by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration \(FMCSA\)](#) sets baseline training requirements for entry-level commercial drivers seeking to obtain a commercial driver's license (CDL).

Which CDL applicants does it apply to?

- First time Class A or Class B CDL applicants
- Existing Class B CDL holders who want to upgrade to a Class A CDL
- First time applicants for a school bus (S), passenger (P), or hazardous materials (H) endorsement

Which CDL applicants does it NOT apply to?

- Any applicant who obtains a commercial learners permit (CLP) prior to February 7, 2022 and returns to obtain their CDL before the CLP expires
- Certain military drivers
- Farmers, firefighters, emergency response vehicle drivers
- Drivers removing snow and ice
- Certain drivers in the State of Alaska
- Restricted CDL holders in farm-related service industries
- Restricted CDL holders in the pyrotechnic industry
- Drivers of "covered farm vehicles"
- Hazardous materials endorsement exemption for certain drivers transporting diesel

What is required of state driver license agencies (SDLA)?

- The state driver licensing agency (SDLA) will check the [FMCSA Training Provider Registry](#) to verify that the CDL applicant has completed the required entry-level driver training before administering one of the following CDL skills or knowledge tests:
 - Skills test for obtaining a Class A or Class B CDL for the first time
 - Skills test for upgrading a Class B CDL to a Class A CDL
 - Skills test for obtaining a passenger (P) or school bus (S) endorsement for the first time
 - Knowledge test for obtaining a hazardous materials (H) endorsement for the first time

What is required of training providers?

- Training providers must register and self-certify that they meet all FMCSA requirements as specified in the ELDT rule.
- After a driver successfully passes the required assessments, the training provider electronically submits the driver-trainee's certification information to the Training Provider Registry; information includes:
 - Driver-trainee name and CDL/CLP number and state of issuance
 - CDL class or endorsement and type of training completed (behind-the-wheel or theory)
 - Total number of clock hours spent behind the wheel (if applicable)
 - Training provider name and TPR ID number (assigned during registration)
 - Date of successful completion of training

States should direct driver applicants with questions to the FMCSA training registry: <https://tpr.fmcsa.dot.gov/>

States needing additional assistance should first contact their state division office:
<https://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/mission/field-offices#Field-Office>