



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

Federal Motor  
Carrier Safety  
Administration

# ELDT

## Entry-Level Driver Training



## SELECTING A TRAINING PROVIDER

### Guide For Entry-Level Drivers

FMCSA's Entry-Level Driver Training (ELDT) regulations set the minimum Federal requirements for training entry-level drivers must complete before testing for certain commercial driver's licenses (CDLs) and CDL endorsements. Drivers are strongly encouraged to use care when selecting a training provider that will help them meet their specific ELDT requirements.

Use the checklist on the following pages to help you select the training provider that is right for you.



**TRAINING**  
PROVIDER REGISTRY

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## ARE YOU REQUIRED TO COMPLETE ENTRY-LEVEL DRIVER TRAINING?

Before you look for a training provider, determine if you are required to complete entry-level driver training. Carefully review the regulations found in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), title 49, [part 380, subpart F](#). FMCSA has also prepared the materials below to assist you:

- Download the [ELDT Applicability Factsheet](#).
- Watch the [“Who needs to take entry-level driver training?” video](#).
- Read the scenarios listed on <https://tpr.fmcsa.dot.gov/Learn/ELDT>.

## Tips for Selecting a Training Provider



### Determine which training you need.

The trainings included in the ELDT regulations are:

- Class A CDL
- Class B to Class A CDL Upgrade
- Class B CDL
- Passenger (P) Endorsement
- School Bus (S) Endorsement
- Hazardous Materials (H) Endorsement

To learn more about the topics FMCSA requires providers to cover in each training, read the [ELDT Minimum Federal Curricula Requirements](#).



### Decide where you will take your test and obtain your CDL.

Federal regulations allow you to receive training and take the CDL skills test in a State other than the State you are licensed in. This means you may be able to complete training in a different State from the one where you will take your CDL skills test, P or S skills test, or H knowledge test.



### Research the training requirements in the State where you plan to take your test and from which you will obtain your CDL.

Some States have training requirements that go above and beyond the Federal minimum ELDT requirements. These States may prohibit you from taking the CDL or endorsement skills test until you meet their State requirements, as well as the Federal requirements.

For more information on a State’s training requirements, contact the State’s Department of Transportation, Department of Education, local business licensing authorities, or a local State Driver Licensing Agency (e.g., the Department of Motor Vehicles).



**Search for registered training providers on the Training Provider Registry.**

Visit the Training Provider Registry website (<https://tpr.fmcsa.dot.gov>) and enter the training type, location, and provider name (if you have one in mind) in the “Find a Provider” search bar. This will bring up a list of registered providers who meet your search criteria.

**You must complete training with a training provider listed on the Training Provider Registry.** Training completed with providers not on this list will not be accepted. For more on this requirement, see 49 CFR [380.609\(b\)](#).

If you plan to enroll in an employer-based training program, you can use the provider search to confirm that the training provider is listed on the Training Provider Registry.



**Come up with a list of questions for training providers.**

Identify the information you need to collect to ensure the provider will help you meet all your training requirements.

**Questions can include:**

- Do your curricula, facilities, vehicles, and instructors meet all FMCSA’s requirements? (For the full requirements, see 49 CFR part 380, [subparts F and G](#).)
  - If the State where you plan to test or obtain a CDL from has additional requirements (e.g., State license, minimum clock hours for behind-the-wheel training), ask the provider if their training program meets these requirements.
- What are your fees?

Note: FMCSA does not set or regulate training fees; providers are responsible for setting their own rates.
- When can I begin classes? Do you have openings now or do you have a waiting list?
- Do you have any policies around partial enrollment?

FMCSA has heard from CDL applicants that they are experiencing difficulty locating a training provider that offers only behind-the-wheel training (BTW), as some providers require trainees to enroll in both theory and BTW. CDL applicants should be aware of this and do their due diligence if they intend to enroll in theory training with one provider and BTW with a different provider.



**Contact the training providers you are interested in enrolling with.**

FMCSA strongly encourages drivers to research multiple training providers. Use the information listed in the Training Provider Registry to contact providers and run through your list of questions. Use the information you gather to decide which provider is the right fit for you.



**Enroll and start training!**

The provider is responsible for submitting certification of your training completion to FMCSA. Once this information is submitted, you may work with your State Driver Licensing Agency to take your skills or knowledge test.

**Looking for more information?**

- Read the [ELDT Regulations](#).
- Browse the [Frequently Asked Questions](#).
- Search for a [Training Provider](#).