

New CDL Rules to take effect February 7th, 2022 – Are you ready?

As if the driver shortage wasn't enough, if you know anyone that is Thinking about getting a CDL license, they might want to get it done now.

Compliance with the new [Entry-Level Driver Training \(ELDT\) rule](#) is quickly approaching. As of February 7, 2022, the education requirements will change for an individual who wants to:

- Obtain a Commercial Driver's License (CDL);
- Upgrade a CDL; or
- Obtain a passenger, school bus or hazmat endorsement.

Also changing — the requirements for those who instruct these individuals.

Gone will be the days of obtaining a learner's permit, driving with a CDL holder for as little as a few hours, and then taking the CDL road test. The process will become more detailed and will take more time than before.

Under the new requirements, an entry-level driver must, prior to taking the CDL test, successfully complete a prescribed program of theory and behind-the-wheel instruction provided by a school or other entity listed on FMCSA's Training Provider Registry (TPR).

Is your entry-level truck driver training program ready for the new FMCSA requirements?

Here is what I have copied from the Indiana BMV Website:

Entry-Level Driver Training (ELDT)

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) established new minimum training standards for certain individuals applying for a Class A or Class B commercial driver's license (CDL) for the first time; an upgrade of their CDL (e.g., a Class B CDL holder seeking a Class A CDL); or a hazardous materials (H), passenger (P), or school bus (S) endorsement on their CDL for the first time. These individuals are subject to the ELDT requirements and must complete a prescribed program of theory (knowledge) and behind-the-wheel (BTW) (range and public road) instruction provided by an entity that is listed on FMCSA's Training Provider Registry.

Effective February 7, 2022 the State Driver's Licensing Agencies (SDLAs) will be required to confirm applicants are in compliance with the ELDT requirements.

[Visit the FMCSA webpage for More Info](#)

ENTRY-LEVEL DRIVER TRAINING

Once operational, the FMCSA Training Provider Registry will retain a record of which CDL applicants have completed the new training and certification process outlined in the Entry-Level Driver Training (ELDT) regulations.

FMCSA's Entry Level Driver Training Program sets the baseline for training requirements for entry-level drivers. This includes those applying to:

- Obtain a Class A 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.

The Entry-Level Driver Training regulations are not retroactive; the entry-level driver training requirements do not apply to individuals holding a valid CDL or an S, P, or H endorsement issued prior to February 7, 2022.

Any individual who meets one of the exceptions for taking a skills test in [49 CFR Part 383](#) is also exempt from the Entry-Level-Driver Training requirements. [Learn more about FMCSA's CDL Program.](#)