

# Entry Level Driver Training – CDL's

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Kevin Reed, P.E.

Maintenance Management Administrator



# Entry Level Driver Training (ELDT)

- Intent: Enhances the safety of CMV operations on highway by establishing more extensive
- When?
  - ELDT final rule
    - Effective March 21, 2017
    - Compliance date: February 7, 2020

# Entry Level Driver Training (ELDT)

## ➤ Who?

- 1<sup>st</sup> time CDL Class A/B applicants
- Class B holders seeking to upgrade to Class A
- Those seeking certain endorsements:
  - Hazardous Materials (H)
  - Passenger (P)
  - School Bus (S)

## ➤ No new exceptions created by final rule

# Entry Level Driver Training (ELDT)

## ➤ What?

- Can only take a skills test once mandatory training is completed
  - Theory curriculum
  - Behind-the-wheel (BTW) training
- Training must be given by entity listed on Training Provider Registry (TPR)

# Entry Level Driver Training (ELDT)

## ➤ What?

- Rule did not establish minimum training hours
- Specific curriculum is outlined in final rule
- Theory and BTW training may be provided by separate training providers

# Entry Level Driver Training (ELDT)

## ➤ Training Providers:

- Must self-certify that requirements are met, subject to audit of program
- Must apply to be listed on TPR operated by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Admin (FMCSA)
- May register prior to Feb 2020, TPR will not be operable until Feb 2020
- Are not required to be accredited by 3<sup>rd</sup> party

# Entry Level Driver Training (ELDT)

## ➤ Instructors:

- Not required or able to register with FMCSA
- BTW Instructor:
  - Holds CDL of same (or higher) class and has 2 yrs. experience operating a CMV or as a BTW CMV Instructor
- Theory Instructor:
  - Holds (or previously held) CDL of same (or higher) class and has 2 yrs. experience operating a CMV or as a BTW CMV Instructor

# Entry Level Driver Training (ELDT)

- Louisiana DOTD
  - Mobile Equipment Operator 1
    - Entry level, does not require CDL
  - Mobile Equipment Operator 2
    - Promotion from MEO1, requires CDL
  - Approximately 200-250 such promotions annually



# Entry Level Driver Training (ELDT)

- 3<sup>rd</sup> Party Vendor
  - \$4K - \$6K per individual per training
- DOTD will develop curriculum and BTW training form in-house and train in-house
- 5-10 BTW instructors per district
- 1-2 Theory instructors per district

# Entry Level Driver Training (ELDT)

- LA Transportation Research Center will work with SME's to develop curriculum and train-the-trainer courses
- LA DOTD intends to train internally only, will not operate as “for-hire” training provider
- Work with HR to develop pay for instructors

# Entry Level Driver Training (ELDT)

- Recent poll conducted by AASHTO pertaining to this subject found:
  - Most states are still developing a program
  - Majority will accomplish in-house and willing to share their curriculum
  - Very few are contracting with 3<sup>rd</sup> party vendors

# FMCSA – ELDT Website Link

The screenshot shows the FMCSA website interface. At the top left is the FMCSA logo and name: "FMCSA Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration". To the right is a search bar with the text "Search FMCSA site" and a "GO" button. Below this is a navigation menu with links: "About Us", "Regulations", "Registration", "Safety", "Analysis", "News", and "FAST Act". On the left side, there is a sidebar with a "Home" link and three highlighted menu items: "Entry-Level Driver Training (ELDT)", "FAQ: ELDT", and "FAQ: Negotiated Rulemaking". The main content area features the heading "Entry-Level Driver Training (ELDT)" and a sub-heading "About the ELDT Final Rule". The text describes the new minimum training standards established by FMCSA for Class A and Class B commercial driver's licenses, including requirements for theory and behind-the-wheel instruction. To the right of the main text is a "Related Links" section with five bullet points linking to various documents and presentations. Below that is an "FMCSA Information Line" section with the address "1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590, United States" and the phone number "800-832-5660".

**FMCSA**  
Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration

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Home

Entry-Level Driver Training (ELDT)

FAQ: ELDT

FAQ: Negotiated Rulemaking

## Entry-Level Driver Training (ELDT)

### About the ELDT Final Rule

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. The final rule incorporates performance-based concepts by requiring that driver-trainees demonstrate proficiency in both the BTW and theory portions of the curricula. The final rule responds to a Congressional mandate imposed under the "Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Act" (MAP-21). The rule is based, in part, on consensus recommendations from the Agency's Entry-Level Driver Training Advisory Committee (ELDTAC), a negotiated rulemaking committee that held a series of meetings in 2015.

#### Related Links

- [ELDT Final Rule \(12/08/2016\)](#)
- [ELDT-II Final Rule \(03/06/2019\)](#)
- [News Release: ELDT-II Final Rule](#)
- [Presentation: Entry-Level Driver Training \(ELDT\) Final Rule](#)
- [Entry Level Driver Training Advisory Committee \(ELDTAC\)](#)

#### FMCSA Information Line

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE  
Washington, DC 20590  
United States

Phone: 800-832-5660

<https://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/registration/commercial-drivers-license/eldt>

# Entry Level Driver Training (ELDT)

Questions?