#### **Entry Level Driver Training – CDL's**

#### **2019 LPESA Spring Conference**

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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



- ➤ 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



- > 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)



- > 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



- > 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



- > 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



- ► 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



- > 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



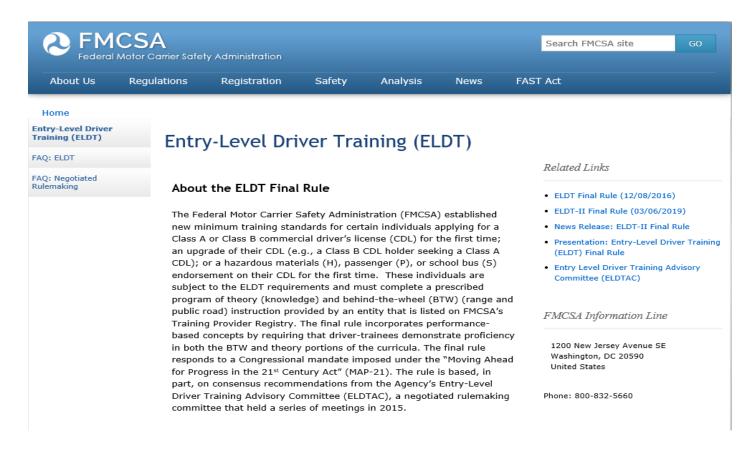
- LA Transportation Research Center will work with SME's to develop curriculum and trainthe-trainer courses
- LA DOTD intends to train internally only, will not operate as "for-hire" training provider
- Work with HR to develop pay for instructors



- 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



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



Questions?

