

# Part 380

## **Entry Level and Special Training Requirements**



## **Entry-Level Driver Training Applicability**

- Drivers applying for a CDL for the first time
- Drivers applying for an upgrade to a current CDL
- Drivers applying for a hazardous materials, passenger, or school bus endorsement for the first time.

## **Entry-Level Driving Training Requirements**

Drivers required to comply with the Entry-Level Driver Training requirements must complete a prescribed program of theory and behind-the-wheel instruction provided by an entity that is listed on FMCSA's Training Provider Registry at <https://tpr.fmcsa.dot.gov/>.

## **Theory Training**

Instruction on the operation of a commercial motor vehicle and related matters through lectures, demonstrations, audio-visual presentations, computer-based instruction, driving simulation devices, online training, or similar means. Drivers must pass a written assessment with a minimum score of 80% to successfully complete theory training.

## **Behind-the-Wheel (BTW) Training**

BTW training consists of driving the CMV on a closed range and on the public roadway. Range training is conducted in an area free of obstructions and traffic allowing drivers to demonstrate proficiency in basic vehicle maneuvers.

Public road training is conducted on the public highway allowing drivers to demonstrate proficiency in operating the CMV in traffic, obeying traffic signs/signals and safely operating the commercial motor vehicle while sharing the road with other vehicles.

Both theory and behind-the-wheel training must be completed prior to taking the CDL skills test. The hazardous materials endorsement only requires completion of the theory training prior to taking the State knowledge test.

The minimum curricula required for the courses can be found at:

<https://tpr.fmcsa.dot.gov/content/Resources/ELDT-Curriculum-Summary.pdf>

