Job Outlook

According to the U.S. Department of Labor’s Occupational Outlook Handbook “Employment for heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers is projected to grow 21 percent from 2010 to 2020, faster than the average for all occupations. As the economy grows, the demand for goods will increase, and more truck drivers will be needed to keep supply chains moving.”


Note: Job Outlook information is based on national statistics.

Occupational Information

Visit the link below to find out more about occupations in this field including skills, education, potential wages and more.

Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers
CIP Code: 49.0205 SOC Code: 53-3032.00
http://www.onetonline.org/link/summary/53-3032.00

Collaborative Program

The Truck Driver training program is offered in conjunction with Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute. Students register and take classes at Mitchell Community College in Statesville and Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute awards the certificate.

Courses

The course involves extensive training and is divided into three parts. At the conclusion of the class, third-party testers will administer the Commercial Driver License (CDL) final test.

Classroom

• CDL Permit and Endorsement Instruction.
• Driver Qualification
• Driver Wellness
• Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations
• Hours of Service & Map Reading
• Vehicle Inspection
• Air Brake Training
• Defensive Driving
• Cargo Handling
• Whistleblower Protection

Road Driving

• Defensive Driving
• Vehicle Control
• Proper use of clutch and gears
• Proper Backing Techniques
• Coupling/Uncoupling

Range Driving

• Pre-trip Inspection
• Basic Vehicle Control

The Truck Driving industry is experiencing faster than normal growth as the economy continues to improve. In addition, new federal regulations limiting the number of hours that a truck driver can be on the road means companies will need more drivers.

The Truck Driver Training program prepares individuals to drive tractor trailers rigs. Students learn proper driving procedures, safe driver responsibility, commercial motor vehicle laws and regulations, and the basic principles and practices for operating commercial vehicles.

The course work includes motor vehicle laws and regulations, map reading, vehicle maintenance, safety procedures, daily logs, defensive driving, freight handling, security, and fire protection. Highway driving, training range exercises, and classroom lectures are used to develop the student’s knowledge and skills.

After completing the program, students are qualified to take the Commercial Driver’s License (CDL) exam and are employable by commercial trucking firms. They may also become owners/operators and work as private contract haulers.

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Registration Requirements

To be admitted, students must:

- Be at least 18 years old. (Student graduates under 21 can drive online within North Carolina.)
- Have a valid N.C. Driver's License with no limiting restrictions
- Be able to read and speak English well enough to take instructions from highway signs, to converse with officials, and complete the required reports. (FMCSR 391.11)
- Present a high school diploma, college, or GED transcript or take and pass a Prerequisite Reading Placement Test with a minimum 8th grade reading level or better to register. Please bring an official copy of your test results with you to register.
- Acquire a N.C. Class A permit with no limiting restrictions before the highway-driving portion of your training or no later than hour 135 of the class.
- Pass a DOT physical and/or hold a (12 month minimum) DOT medical card. This should be completed by the first day of class. A current medical card is required to drive on the road.
- Pass a DOT drug screen. This should be completed prior to enrollment. Negative results are required to get onto a truck and to remain in class.
- All immigrants must show proof of permanent residency.

Due to strict requirements and restrictions of most trucking companies, you must also:

- Have a seven-year motor vehicle record with no convictions in the past 3 years of: DUI, refusal to take a chemical test, hit and run, leaving the scene of an accident, or careless and reckless driving, a preventable accident, or speeding 15 mph over the limit.
- Have no felony or major misdemeanor convictions within the last 5 years.

Note: Meeting these requirements will not guarantee you a position as a driver after course completion. Each trucking company has their own list of requirements; some more strict than what’s listed above.

NOTE: General information is also available on the Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute’s website at [http://www.cccti.edu/pages/Curriculum/Transportation/TruckDriverTraining.asp](http://www.cccti.edu/pages/Curriculum/Transportation/TruckDriverTraining.asp).

Contact: For more information, call (704) 878-4266.