



American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators

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## FMCSA Announces Minimum Training Requirements for Entry-Level Commercial Motor Vehicle Operators

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) announced a [Notice of Proposed Rulemaking](#) (NPRM) proposing new training standards for certain individuals applying for their initial commercial driver's license (CDL); an upgrade of their CDL; or a hazardous materials, passenger, or school bus endorsement. These requirements would also apply to a previously disqualified CDL holder seeking to reacquire a license. Under the proposal, applicants seeking a Class A CDL would be required to obtain a minimum of 30 hours of behind-the-wheel training from an instructional program that meets FMCSA standards, including a minimum of 10 hours of operating the vehicle on a practice driving range. Applicants seeking a Class B CDL would be required to obtain a minimum of 15 hours of behind-the-wheel training, including a minimum of seven hours of practice range training. Individuals applying for these license classes would be subject to the proposed entry-level driver training requirements and would be required to complete a course of instruction provided by an entity that:

- Meets the minimum qualifications for training providers
- Covers the curriculum
- Is listed on FMCSA's proposed Training Provider Registry
- Submits electronically to FMCSA the training certificate for each individual who completes the training

Under the proposal, military drivers, farmers, and firefighters would continue to remain generally exempt from the federal CDL requirements.

The regulations are based on recommendations made by the Entry-Level Driver Training Advisory (ELDTAC) negotiated rulemaking committee - of which AAMVA was a part.

Comments on the NPRM are due 30 days from the anticipated publication date of March 7. Jurisdictions submitting comments to the docket are encouraged to copy [governmentaffairs@aamva.org](mailto:governmentaffairs@aamva.org).

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