



Steps to get a Commercial Driver License (CDL)

1. Have a NYS Driver License (Class D, E or Non-CDLC) or a valid CDL from another state.
2. Prepare for written test.
 - Study the [CDL Driver Manual](#)
 - Copies of the booklet available at all DMV offices
3. Apply for Commercial Learner Permit at a DMV Office.
 - Application fee of \$10
 - [Application \(MV-44\)](#)
 - Take the written Commercial Learner Permit test at a Saratoga County DMV office. Tests can be given up until 4 p.m. (or 5 p.m. Wednesdays). Arrive no later than 3:30 for optimal amount of test-taking time.
4. Pay \$40 CDL road test (Skills test) fee before scheduling your road test.
5. Complete Entry-Level Driver Training (ELDT) prior to taking CDL road test.
 - [ELDT FAQs](#)
6. Prepare for your road test.
 - Study the [CDL Driver Manual](#)
 - Practice with supervision by a driver who holds the same license class as the vehicle being driven
 - Those seeking a bus driver CDL are required to receive the 'P' (passenger) endorsement and 'S' (school) endorsement.
7. Schedule CDL road test (skills test).
 - [Road Test Scheduling System](#)
 - CDL Driver Manual [Sections 11-13](#) covers the skills
8. Take your road test at least 14 days after receiving Commercial Learner Permit.

Common Mistakes

- Failure to do air brake check
- Not setting the brake (vehicle moves)
- Performing air brake check incorrectly
- Not studying the CDL Driver Manual

Important Resources

- NYS [CDL Driver's Manual](#)
- [Training Provider Registry](#)
- Explanation of Driver License Classes, Endorsements & Restrictions ([MV-500C](#))
- [Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration](#)