



# CDL-A Truck Driver Training

## Program Information and Frequently Asked Questions

Orientation Dates	Training Dates *
January 8, 2014	January 13 – February 14, 2014
February 5, 2014	February 17 – March 21, 2014
March 5, 2014	March 24 – April 25, 2014
April 2, 2014	April 28 – May 30, 2014
May 7, 2014	June 2 – July 3, 2014
June 4, 2014	July 7 – August 8, 2014
July 2, 2014	August 11 – September 12, 2014
August 6, 2014	September 15 – October 17, 2014
September 3, 2014	October 20 – November 21, 2014
October 1, 2014	
November 5, 2014	
December 3, 2014	
<p>All orientations are held in the conference room at the Horizon Center room unless otherwise noted.</p> <p>Please call 262-741-8518 or email <a href="mailto:tilleye@gtc.edu">tilleye@gtc.edu</a> to reserve a spot in an orientation. Attending the orientation does not obligate you in any way.</p> <p><small># Room to be determined</small></p>	<p>The program meets Monday-Friday from 7:30 am - 4:30 pm.</p> <p><b>Prior to enrolling you must attend an orientation.</b> If you miss an orientation session and want to enroll in the training that begins before the next scheduled orientation please call 262-741-8518.</p> <p><b>Visit website at:</b> <a href="http://www.gtc.edu/cdl">www.gtc.edu/cdl</a></p>

### Steps to enroll in program:

1. Attend an orientation.
2. Request your driving record from the DMV (see page 3).
3. Complete the application (available online at [www.gtc.edu/cdl](http://www.gtc.edu/cdl)) and email to: [tilleye@gtc.edu](mailto:tilleye@gtc.edu) or fax to 262-741-8133. Along with the application include a copy of your driver's license (front and back), and your driving record.
4. Upon receipt of your completed application Gateway will contact you for payment information and Eagle Training Services will contact you to review your application to determine eligibility into the program and to schedule your DOT physical and drug screen.

**Please note:** This training is provided by Eagle Training Services in partnership with Gateway Technical College. This is not a Gateway Technical College program and therefore not eligible for financial aid.

# Frequently Asked Questions

## How will this program prepare me for a career?

You can be in a new career in just 5 weeks! The program prepares you to become a professionally trained truck driver and test for the Wisconsin Commercial Driver's License (CDL) Class A.

Training is provided through [Eagle Training Services, Inc.](#), a state certified truck driving school. All instructors have a minimum of 10 years experience and many have more than 30 years experience. During the behind the wheel instruction the typical instructor ratio is four students per instructor.

## How long is the program?

The program runs for 5 consecutive weeks, and meets Monday-Friday from 7:30 am until 4:30 pm. There are 40 hours of classroom instruction and 160 hours of yard and road skills training. Full attendance in all training components is required.

## What does the program cover?

Classroom training – Designed to introduce the rules and regulations as they relate to commercial vehicle driving and safe handling techniques through manuals, audio and visual presentations and mechanical examples. Upon conclusion of the 40 hours of classroom instruction student is required to test with the Wisconsin DOT to obtain a CDL-A instructional permit.

- Orientation
- Vehicle systems and inspections
- Safe and legal driving skills
- Log book and hours of service
- DOT regulations
- Map reading and trip planning
- Hazardous materials regulations
- Job procurement
- CDL permit study to help you pass the written portion of the CDL exam

Yard skills training – orientation and introduction to the vehicle. Student must demonstrate proficiency in skills exercises.

- Pre-trip inspections
- Coupling and uncoupling
- Straight back maneuvers
- Front stop
- 90° backing
- 45° alley dock backing
- Measured right hand turns

Road skills training – Orientation and explanation of driving techniques. Students will be evaluated after each driving session. At the conclusion of skills training the student will test with the Wisconsin DOT to obtain a CDL-A driving license.

- Pre-trip inspections
- Safe driving practice
- Hazard perceptions
- Space management
- Double clutching
- Left turns/right turns
- Uphill/Downhill
- Lane changes
- Up-Shifting and Down-Shifting

## Where is the training held?

The classroom portion of the program meets at the Horizon Center, located at 4940 88<sup>th</sup> Ave in Kenosha, WI. The yard and road skills training is at a nearby facility (Vulcan Yard).

## Are there any special requirements for entrance into the program?

Individuals interested in enrolling in the program:

- Must have a good driving record and a valid driver's license at the time of registration
- Must be 18 or older
- Must be able to read and write in English
- Must be able to meet the federal Dept. of Transportation (DOT) physical requirements
- Must attend an information session
- Must pass DOT physical
- Must pass drug screen

## Is there anything that may disqualify me from the program?

The following may disqualify you from entrance into the program:

- Poor driving record
- Recent felony convictions
- History of drug or alcohol abuse
- History of mental disorder
- Permanent disability
- Physical limitations
- Insulin-dependent diabetes
- Any alcohol-related violations or motor vehicle violations in the past 5 years.

Prior to enrollment you will complete a pre-screening application/questionnaire to determine eligibility for entrance into the program.

## How can I check my driving record?

At the time of application you will need to provide a copy of your driving record (Driver Record Abstract). This can be obtained through the Wisconsin Dept. of Transportation. There is a \$7 fee to obtain your Driver Record Abstract. Note that you **cannot go to a DMV counter to obtain your driving record**; so please plan accordingly so that you have this information to send with your application. You can request your driving record over the phone or by mail.

By phone: call (608) 261-2566- this is the quickest and easiest way to get a copy of your driving record.

To purchase your record by mail, go to the website to download a copy of the request form and follow online instructions: <http://www.dot.wisconsin.gov/drivers/drivers/points/abstract.htm>

## I have a CDL - How can I get a Wisconsin CDL or upgrade from CDL-B to CDL-A?

Eagle Training offers a 2-week upgrade program (also known as short course). This course is designed to upgrade or refresh the skills of **drivers already holding a commercial driver's license**. This program includes 80 hours of yard and road skills techniques and does not have a classroom component.

**Upgrading from a Class B to Class A license** - Enrollment in the upgrade program may be for someone who has a valid Class B license **and** has employment as a commercial driver lined up; **or** for someone who has previously had a valid Class A license **and** has employment as a commercial driver lined up.

**Prerequisite for upgrade program:** Must have valid commercial driver's license with air brake endorsement. Participants not holding a valid CDL must be able to demonstrate that they have commercial driving experience. Participants with a B endorsement must obtain an A permit. Students that previously possessed a class A License that has expired must obtain a class A permit with air brake endorsement prior to enrollment.

To determine your eligibility for the upgrade (short) program please contact Eagle Training Services at: [Jennifer@eagletrainingservices.com](mailto:Jennifer@eagletrainingservices.com)

Cost: \$2,000. Full payment is due at time of registration.

Dates of training: concurrent with any scheduled full training program.

For more information: 262-741-8518.

## How do I sign up?

Complete the application found online at [www.gtc.edu/cdl](http://www.gtc.edu/cdl) and fax it to 262-741-8133 or email [tilleye@gtc.edu](mailto:tilleye@gtc.edu) .

**In person or online registration is not available for this program.**

## What is the cost?

The total program cost is \$3,950. The cost includes all materials, the DOT physical and a drug screen. This cost **does not** include the following fees: copy of DMV driving record (\$7), DMV permit (approx. \$30), CDL-A license (approx. \$74) 3<sup>rd</sup> party testing fee (approx. \$85) and any other applicable DMV fees, including endorsements. Additionally, as this program prepares you for a hazmat endorsement, the TSA requires a screening that includes a background check and fingerprinting. The cost for the TSA screening is approx. \$90. The hazmat endorsement is optional but strongly encouraged.

**A \$500 deposit is due at the time of application.** The balance of \$3,450 is due one week before the start of class. Payment can be made by credit card (Visa, MasterCard, Discover or American Express) or by certified check or money order only (no personal checks). **Please make payment payable to NC3.**

## Is there any financial assistance available through Gateway?

No. This program is not eligible for financial aid. Applicants **may** be eligible for assistance under dislocated-worker or other programs available through their county Job Center. ***This is not a guarantee of any assistance.*** Contact your county Job Center for more information: In Kenosha county: 262-697-4597

In Walworth county: Mark Leemkuil, 262-741-5272

## NEW! Financing available through Dow Financial, Inc.:

Eagle Training Services has established a partnership with Dow Financial, Inc. to provide a loan program for eligible participants to be used for the costs of CDL Training. Anyone interested in this option should call Dow Financial at 815-723-3713 Ext. 11 and ask for Kathleen. A co-signer is required. Any questions about the financing option must be directed to Dow Financial.

**Veterans:** Eagle Training Services is VA approved for GI Bill/Post 911 payments. Contact your VA rep to process the paperwork for this training. As this is not a Gateway program VA paperwork is processed through Eagle Training Services. Please contact Eagle directly at 847-854-3218 to use your veteran's benefits for this training.

## What is the employment outlook?

The U.S. Dept. of Labor states that the growth in demand for truck drivers will create thousands of openings. This occupation has among the largest number of openings each year. Average annual starting salaries range from \$32,000 - \$55,000.

## Is there any help finding a job once the training is done?

Extensive job placement assistance through Eagle Training Services is an important part of the program. Many students are pre-hired during the training and receive job offers upon completion of the program. Jobs are not limited to CDL-A professional truck driver; this program provides you with the skills that correlate with careers in bus and truck mechanics, repair and diagnostic specialists, large machinery operations, heavy vehicle sales personnel and positions within municipalities or utilities. This program offers lifetime job placement assistance.

**For information on registering for an orientation, registering for the program or payment information:** 262-741-8518 or [tilleye@gtc.edu](mailto:tilleye@gtc.edu)

**For information on student records, curriculum content or DOT physical scheduling:**  
Eagle Training Services, 847-854-3218. [www.eagletruckdrivingschool.com](http://www.eagletruckdrivingschool.com)

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- Points driver records
- Check your driver's license status
- Driver license points- frequently asked questions
- Driver record abstracts
- Out-of-state traffic violations
- Point system
- Request your driving record
- Traffic convictions
- Traffic safety courses

[Drivers & Vehicles](#) > [Drivers](#) > [Points/driver records](#) >

## Request your own driving record

Your motor vehicle driving abstract (commonly called a driving record) contains your driving history for a specific period of time. Most entries remain on your record for 5 years, except for serious offenses or alcohol related convictions, which remain on your record for 55 years.

The Division of Motor Vehicles (DMV) does not have a public counter where driving records can be obtained. You can request a copy of your own driver record over the phone or by mail.

To purchase your record by phone, call (608) 261-2566. The automated system, available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, will prompt you to enter your Social Security Number. It is very important that you listen to the complete message and follow the instructions given, or the transaction will not be completed and your request will not go through.

A bill, charging the appropriate fee(s), and your driver record abstract will be mailed to the address on your driving record the next business day. [BDS108](#) will provide you with an explanation of the codes used on the driver record abstract.

To purchase your record by mail, complete a Vehicle/Driver Record Information Request Form [MV2896](#) and mail it with the appropriate fee to:

Wisconsin Department of Transportation  
P.O. Box 7995  
Madison, WI 53707-7995

You can check the current status of your driver license online or call (608) 264-7133 (for a recorded message, 24 hours a day). You will need your Social Security number and date of birth to access this information.

If you have questions about specific convictions:

- E-mail: [driverrecords.dmv@dot.state.wi.us](mailto:driverrecords.dmv@dot.state.wi.us)
- Call: (608) 266-2353

You will need the Adobe Reader (provided free of charge) to view PDF files. For more information about getting your free copy of the Adobe Reader, visit WisDOT's [Software information](#) page.

Questions about the content of this page:  
Bureau of Driver Services, [driverrecords.dmv@dot.state.wi.us](mailto:driverrecords.dmv@dot.state.wi.us)  
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