



Tri-C® Where futures begin.sm
Truck Driving Academy
Class A or Class B CDL Training

Frequently Asked Questions:

How old (or young) do I have to be to get a CDL?

You must be 21 years old. (18 years if all commercial driving is done within Ohio. There is no upper age limit if you can pass the Department of Transportation physical.)

Can I use an Ohio CDL out-of-state?

Yes. It is accepted throughout the USA, Canada and Mexico.

Do I have to have a driver's license to get the training?

Yes, you must have a current, valid State of Ohio Driver's License to participate. Any of the following may disqualify you from obtaining a CDL in Ohio:

- If you possess a license from any state other than Ohio.
- If you are currently subject to any disqualification of your commercial driving privilege from Ohio or any other state.
- If your license is currently suspended, revoked, denied, or cancelled.

What about a criminal history?

Cuyahoga Community College does not require a background check to participate in the CDL training program. For employment, employers may impose additional standards and/or higher age requirements that may include a background check. We will work with each person individually to help find opportunities for them and there are options for most people. For more information please see the [Limited Opportunities](#) form attached that outlines issues that may present challenges for you in obtaining employment.

Can my Ohio CDL be suspended or revoked?

Yes, there are many reasons that your Ohio CDL can be suspended or revoked, just like any driving license. Improper use of alcohol or drugs and traffic violations are the most common.

How big are the classes?

In order to provide the best learning environment, we keep our class sizes small.

What is your class schedule/how long is the training?

You will receive 160 hours of training for Class "A" and 120 hours for Class "B". Day classes start at 7 a.m. and dismiss at 6 p.m., with one hour for lunch and the training takes 4 weeks with additional time for testing. Night classes run Monday - Thursday 6:30 p.m.-11:30 pm. for 8 weeks, with testing during the day after the 8th week. The weekend classes run both Saturday and Sunday from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. for 8 weekends, with testing after the 8th week. **Class schedules are subject to change.**

What is a "Skills Test" and how do I take it?

A "skills" test is the practical portion of the driver's exam and includes:

1. A vehicle inspection test to measure your ability to perform a pre-trip inspection.
2. A basic control skills test, including backing skills.
3. A road test to measure your driving skills.
4. You will test in one of the same vehicles that you trained in.

How much is the training?

Cost of the CDL program is \$5495.00 for Class "A" and \$4200.00 for Class "B", including the CDL Learners Permit; DOT Physical/Drug Screen; all books and classroom materials; and CDL License upon passing state testing. Optional training is available for Passenger Endorsement and School bus at an additional fee.

Can I get a grant or student loan? I'm unemployed-how can I get funding?

Pell and FAFSA do not cover this class, but there are agencies that can help, including:

<p>For Cuyahoga County: OhioMeansJobs/ Cleveland-Cuyahoga County (216) 664-4673</p> <p>ohiomeansjobs.com/cuyahoga</p>	<p>For all other counties: Dial 2-1-1</p>	<p>For US Veterans: http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/</p> <p>1-800-827-1000</p>
<p>Smart Option Career Training Loan Call 1-866-414-3082. Our school code is 003040 and our branch code is 00.</p> <p><small>*We are not a representative of Sallie Mae, do not earn anything for referrals and advise all students to investigate thoroughly before making a commitment to this or any other alternative loan company.</small></p>	<p>Bureau of Vocational Rehabilitation (BVR) (216) 227-3250</p>	<p>Ohio Bureau of Worker's Compensation 1-800-644-6292</p>

Do you guarantee I can get a CDL License and/or a driving position?

According to Ohio law; we cannot guarantee that you will pass the CDL test or that you will be employed upon completion of the training, however, we assist our students to the best of our ability. Trucking industry recruiters visit our school regularly and many local companies inquire about our graduates. Your success is our success!

When does registration start?

Classes run on a year-round basis. Registration can only be done at the Truck Driving Academy.

What kind of equipment do you have?

All TDA equipment will be the "Standard of the Industry" which means these are the type and model vehicles that are used in today's fleets. All vehicles have been inspected by the State of Ohio and also pass a Federal DOT inspection (the trucks even have air ride seats for the students in the cab) and we think we have the best training vehicles available in Northeast Ohio.

Do you have dorms on site that I can stay in?

No, but there are nearby accommodations.

I want more information, how can I get it?

Please see CDL Program Application online www.tri-c.edu/truckdriving



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The Limited Opportunities document will be given to students at any time they divulge information or information is found that may limit their opportunities for employment. The information that would determine the need for the form would include, but not be limited to:

Felony Convictions of any type or time frame.

Misdemeanor Convictions, 10 years

Probation or any court order that requires no travel outside the local area or State

Loss of driving privileges:

- DUI / DWI, OVI 10 years
- Reckless Driving, 10 years
- Child Support suspension, 10 years
- Multiple speeding or other convictions, 3 years
- More than 4 points on the driving record, currently
- 2 Speeding Convictions in excess of 15 mph over the posted limit within a 3 year period
- Railroad Crossing violations, 5 years
- Possible other moving and non-moving violations that are CDL disqualifying violations, 5 years

Not possessing a valid state Driver's License for at least 3 years

Not having driven regularly in the last 3 years

Other possible times and situations that may require the form:

- Inability to verify employment and/or residence for the preceding three years
- Failure of DOT 5 panel drug and/ or alcohol screening, DOT Physical, 10 years
- Personal History, 10 year

Background Check May Be Performed