

COMMERCIAL TRUCK DRIVING

Program Purpose

The purpose of the Commercial Truck Driving program is to provide accessible, quality educational opportunities that will provide individuals with the knowledge, technical skills, and attitudes necessary to obtain entry-level employment in the commercial truck driving profession. This program is intended to produce graduates who are prepared for entry-level employment, upon licensure, as Class “A” commercial truck drivers. Program graduates are to be competent in the technical areas of hours of service regulations, vehicle inspection procedures, basic backing skills, defensive driving techniques, basic driving techniques, driver fatigue recognition, and recognition of driving environment hazards.

Reid State Technical College will accomplish program objectives by providing students with a comprehensive technical training in the core area of Commercial Truck Driving. The occupational skill preparation is designed to meet the United States Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, and Commercial Driver’s License (CDL) recognized skill standards.

Occupational data

Graduates of the Commercial Truck Driving program work in the transportation industry where they use their skills which are grouped under the classification of commercial truck driver personnel. According to Economic Modeling, the national median wage for commercial truck driver personnel was \$21.76/hr. in 2019.

Admission Requirements

Applicants to this program must complete the Commercial Truck Driving admission application, the TABE assessment thru RSTC’s Adult Education Program, and be 18 years of age. Additionally, applicants must provide a motor vehicle driving record (MVR) for the last three years. Students will also submit a D.O.T. physical, drug screen, and Commercial Learners License in order to register. While enrolled, students are subject to random drug and alcohol tests in accordance with the Department of Transportation Omnibus Transportation Employee Testing Act of 1991.

Alabama Department of Public Safety regulation, effective January 1, 2006, requires a student to possess one of the following commercial licenses:

1. Commercial Learner License (CLL)– A CLL is required for someone to legally drive upon the highway if they do not currently possess a CDL. A state learner license, valid for up to one year, shall be considered valid commercial drivers’ licenses for purposes of behind-the-wheel training on public roads or highways. This includes Class D privileges. This license is issued to Class D operators or individuals with no driver license.

Program Costs

Tuition: \$3,359.88 (fall and spring); \$3,361.59 (summer)

Insurance Fee: \$5.12 (Fall & Spring); \$3.41 (Summer)

Drug Screen and DOT Physical: Approximately \$135.00

Total Cost: \$140.12 (fall and spring); \$138.41 (summer)

TOTAL PROGRAM COSTS and FEES: \$3500.00

Additional expenses for the required textbooks, tools, and supplies for this program are approximately:

- Books and Supplies \$ 50.00
- Commercial Knowledge Test \$ 25.00
- CDL Permit \$ 36.25
- Motor Vehicle Record fee (MVR) \$ 5.75

Certification Requirements

The student will be eligible to take the CDL Third Party Road Test as part of his/her truck driving training if the student has received a satisfactory (S) rating in the overall program. The student would also be required to seek employment with a minimum of two truck driving employers.

Evaluation/Grading

Student MUST receive a satisfactory (S) in all seven content areas to take the CDL final examination.

P- Pass

F- Fail

COURSE CONTENT

Length of Program: 345 hours (8 weeks)

Classes Meet Monday – Friday, 7:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Basic Vehicle Operation
Safe Operating Practices
Non-Vehicle Activities
Vehicle Maintenance
Advanced Operating Practices
Proficiency Development
Commercial Driver's License