



# Idealease Safety Bulletin

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## Question of the Week:

*I am promoting a driver from one of our NON-CDL straight trucks to driving a CDL tractor/trailer. The driver has obtained a CDL license. The driver has no other previous CDL driving experience. As the motor carrier am I required to provide training to my driver as determined by the FMCSA regulations?*

**Answer:**

**Yes, here is the entry level training requirements of the FMCSA:**

### CFR 380.503 Entry-level driver training requirements.

Entry-level driver training must include instruction addressing the following four areas:

- (a) Driver qualification requirements. The Federal rules on medical certification, medical examination procedures, general qualifications, responsibilities, and disqualifications based on various offenses, orders, and loss of driving privileges (part 391, subparts B and E of this subchapter).
- (b) Hours of service of drivers. The limitations on driving hours, the requirement to be off-duty for certain periods of time, record of duty status preparation, and exceptions (part 395 of this subchapter). Fatigue countermeasures as a means to avoid crashes.
- (c) Driver wellness. Basic health maintenance including diet and exercise. The importance of avoiding excessive use of alcohol.
- (d) Whistleblower protection. The right of an employee to question the safety practices of an employer without the employee's risk of losing a job or being subject to reprisals simply for stating a safety concern (29 CFR part 1978).



This training is to be documented and kept on file for the duration of employment and three years thereafter.

## Definition of an Entry Level Driver:

### CFR 380.502 Definitions.

(a) The definitions in [part 383](#) of this chapter apply to this part, except where otherwise specifically noted. (b) As used in this subpart: Entry-level driver is a driver with less than one year of experience operating a CMV with a CDL in interstate commerce. Entry-level driver training is training the CDL driver receives in driver qualification requirements, hours of service of drivers, driver wellness, and whistle blower protection as appropriate to the entry-level driver's current position in addition to passing the CDL test.

## Proposed Change to Entry Level Driver Training Regulation Update!

Entry Level Training Rule- proposed rule will require both classroom and behind the wheel training with examinations from an accredited institution, on top of existing CDL testing

Will apply to new drivers seeking CDLs, or wanting to upgrade a CDL

Will apply to drivers obtaining CDLs three years after final rule is published

Class A: 76 hrs classroom, 44 hours behind the wheel, total of 120 hours



CDL Driver minimum training standards to OST Feb. 20, 2012; Final Rule publication by July 2, 2012

On Thursday March 15, 2012 Larry Minor, FMCSA Associate Administrator for Policy, indicated that it is “uncertain” about the future of the rulemaking. Anne Ferro, FMCSA Administrator said that the future of the rule will be in the FMCSA’s “Significant Rulemaking” report.

## ***Registration is now open on line for the 2012 Idealease/NPTC Safety Seminars!***

### **Upcoming seminars to be held in April**

- April 03- Hyattsville, MD
- April 04- Baltimore, MD
- April 05- Charlottesville, MD
- April 10- Springfield, IL
- April 11- Wausa, WI
- April 11- Harrisburg, PA
- April 12- Minneapolis, MN
- April 12- Philadelphia, PA
- April 18- Sacramento, CA
- April 19- San Leandro, CA
- April 19- Kansas City, KS
- April 24- Monroe, LA
- April 25- Tupelo, MS
- April 26- Memphis, TN

#### **NEW FOR 2012 SEMINARS!!!!**

This year during the seminar you will receive Drug and Alcohol Supervisor Training. This training meets the requirements of FMCSA CFR 382.603 that requires all supervisors of commercial motor vehicle drivers to have the training for reasonable suspicion drug and alcohol testing.

***To view the full schedule of all seminars in 2012 and to register for a seminar click on:***

**[www.Idealease.com/safety](http://www.Idealease.com/safety)**