

Class A Preparation Syllabus

Time: 40 hours

Maximum Class Size: 20

Prerequisites: None

Course Description: California has developed licensing and testing requirements for drivers of commercial vehicles which equals or exceeds federal standards. It takes special skills to safely operate large vehicles. This course is designed to increase the pass rate of the participants who are referred to Pilot Trucking School or other professional schools for Class “A” training. Intensive classroom instruction is aimed at improving the understanding of the specific rules and regulations that are required to pass the written section of the CDL Class “A” test. In addition, the commercial driving test is administered in the English language only, therefore specific language issues will also be addressed to ensure complete understanding.

Goals/Objectives/Student Learning Outcomes:

- Identify who needs to obtain a Commercial Driver License (CDL).
- Identify how to obtain a Commercial Driver License (CDL).
- Identify State Laws and Regulations related to a CDL.
- Describe how to complete an inspection, including a pre-trip, en-route and after trip inspection.
- Describe basic vehicle control, accelerating, shifting gears, communicating, seeing, controlling speed, driving at night, as well as driving in a variety of other conditions.
- Identify all regulations related to transporting cargo.
- Identify all regulations related to operating vehicles with air brakes.
- Identify all components of operating combination vehicles, safely, coupling and uncoupling and inspecting a combination vehicle.
- Identify possible emergencies and collision procedures.
- Identify all regulations for drivers who tow doubles or triples.
- Identify all regulations for drivers who drive tank vehicles (optional).
- Identify all regulations for drivers who need a HAZMAT endorsement (optional).
- Successfully complete an external inspection of a truck, tractor, or combination vehicle.
- Successfully participate in and complete the Pilot Trucking Class “A” driving course.
- Successfully pass the written and hands-on portion of the California Department of Motor Vehicles Class “A” test.

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Standards

California Vehicle Code as presented in the:

2014-2015 California Commercial Drivers Handbook

Classroom Rules and Procedures

- All classes begin at 6:30 am and end at 3:00 pm
- Upon entering classroom, all participants must sign in and be seated by 6:30 am
- Class will consist of a combination of lecture, video, demonstration, coached group exercises, individual exercises and assessment.
- Students are required to report to class ready to work and maintain the provided PPE

Textbooks/Readings/Materials

- 2014-2015 California Commercial Driver Handbook
- Pretrip Inspection Score Sheet
- CDL Pre-Trip Evaluation Passing Scores
- Sample Commercial Drivers Written Test 1 (DMV)
- Truck Diagram (3 pages)
- Final Air Brake Check
- Air Brake Check (C.O.L.A.)
- Sample DMV Score Sheet
- CDL Preparation Handbook

Personal Protective Equipment

- 12 pairs of gloves
- 12 pairs of Safety Glasses
- 20 pairs of Ear plugs
- 12 hard hats

Course Requirements

In order to receive credit for the course, participants must:

- Be present for full forty hours
- Participate in all classroom exercises
- Pass a written exam

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- Pass a hands-on exam

Course Policies

- Participants must be on-time and ready to work.
- Participants must return from breaks on-time.
- Participants must participate in each exercise and assignment
- Participants who are on “light duty” are not allowed to take this course due to the physically demanding requirements.

Assessment and Grading

Participants will be assessed on the following:

- All written exams must be passed with a score of 80% or above.
- All hands-on exercises are graded on performance and participation. They are pass/fail and must be passed with a score of 80% or above.

Safety

Failure to maintain and use PPE may result in dismissal from the course.