



NBWA's Entry-Level Driver Training (ELDT) FAQ

Acronym Key:

BTW = Behind-the-Wheel
CDL = Commercial Driver's License
CMV = Commercial Motor Vehicle
ELDT = Entry-Level Driver Training
FMCSA = Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration
TPR = Training Provider Registry

Q: Who will be affected by the new ELDT rule?

A: The new ELDT regulations are federal regulations and will apply to any individual seeking to obtain, for the first time, a Commercial Driver's License (CDL) or an upgrade of their CDL (e.g., a Class B CDL holder seeking a Class A CDL) starting on February 7, 2022.

Q: If a driver has had their CDL for many years and it expired, will they be required to complete ELDT training to renew their CDL?

A: No, if the driver was issued a CDL before February 7, 2022, the driver is not subject to the ELDT requirements if he or she chooses to re-obtain a CDL of the same class, even if the previously issued CDL is not currently valid.

Q: Are the ELDT training requirements applicable in all states?

A: Yes, this is a federal regulation and applies to all states beginning on February 7, 2022. Additionally, states may choose to have regulations that exceed EDLT, and those state requirements would also need to be met in addition to the EDLT regulations.

Q: Who is required to register on the Training Provider Registry (TPR)?

A: Any entity that will be providing training to first-time CDL applicants will need to register on the TPR. Individual instructors that are employed by registered Training Providers do not need to register on the TPR. Additionally, Training Providers do not need to provide the names of their instructors when registering. But, if an individual would like to develop their own curriculum and train separately from an employer, they must register. To be eligible for listing on the TPR, an entity must meet the following requirements (found [here](#)):

- Follow a curriculum that meets the applicable criteria in [Appendices A-E of Part 380](#);
- Utilize facilities meeting the criteria in § [380.709](#);
- Utilize vehicles meeting the criteria in § [380.711](#);
- Utilize instructors meeting the criteria in § [380.713](#);
- Meet recordkeeping requirements in § [380.725](#);
- Be licensed, certified, registered, or authorized to provide training in accordance with the applicable laws and regulations of any state where in-person training is conducted.

Training Providers must be able to supply documentary evidence to verify their compliance with the above criteria. Training Providers must continue to meet the eligibility requirements to stay listed on the TPR.

Q: What are the exact criteria that instructors must meet?

A: An instructor must meet the following standards:

Theory instructors must:

1. Hold a CDL of the same (or higher) class, and with all endorsements necessary, to operate the commercial motor vehicle (CMV) for which training is to be provided.
2. Meet all applicable state qualification requirements for CMV instructors. (This is not required if providing theory instruction exclusively.)
3. Meet one of these:
 - a. Have a minimum of two years' experience operating a CMV requiring a CDL of the same (or higher) class, or the same endorsement; or
 - b. Have previously held a CDL of the same (or higher) class; or
 - c. Have a minimum of two years' experience as a BTW CMV instructor.

Behind-the-Wheel (BTW) instructors must:

1. Hold a CDL of the same (or higher) class, and with all endorsements necessary, to operate the CMV for which training is to be provided.
2. Meet all applicable state qualification requirements for CMV instructors.
3. Meet one of these:
 - a. Have a minimum of two years' experience operating a CMV requiring a CDL of the same (or higher) class, or the same endorsement; or
 - b. Have a minimum of two years' experience as a BTW CMV instructor.

Q: Do the new ELDT regulations require a beer distributor to conduct in-house training?

A: No, there is no requirement that you, as the employer, train in-house. You may use third parties for the theory and BTW components of ELDT, if they are registered on the TPR. Furthermore, if your company registers on the TPR and will train in-house, you are not required to train individuals outside of your company.

Q: Are there curriculum materials available for the theory portion of ELDT? Are there sample tests?

A: FMCSA does not provide any materials or endorse any specific training program for the theory or BTW components. They also do not provide sample curriculum or tests for any of the ELDT training requirements.

Q: What exactly needs to be covered in the theory and BTW sections of ELDT?

A: A list of required topics for the theory and BTW components of ELDT can be found [here](#). An individual training for their CDL must receive at least 80% proficiently when tested on the theory curriculum; if an instructor chooses to test section-by-section, the student must score at least an 80% on each section and similarly, if the student is tested at the end of all theory instruction, they must receive at least an 80% on the comprehensive exam. The BTW proficiency assessment is at the discretion of the trainer. There are not a required number of hours that must be spent on theory or BTW training.

Q: How will reporting into the TPR work?

A: Once an individual has satisfactorily completed the theory or BTW portions of ELDT, the Training Provider is required, within two days, to enter a student's test results into the TPR. Those results can then be accessed and confirmed by the state driver's license agency for the student to take their final testing to receive their CDL.