

Safe Driver Apprenticeship Pilot Program consists of 120-hour probationary period & 280-hour probationary period for apprentice drivers.



During the 120-hour probationary period, the employing motor carrier must ensure the apprentice:

1) Completes 120 hours of on-duty time. >80 hours shall be driving time in a CMV.

2) Is competent in:

- Interstate, City Traffic, Rural 2-Lane, and Evening Driving, Safety Awareness
- Speed and Space Management, Lane Control, Mirror Scanning, Right and Left Turns
- Logging and Complying with hours of service rules.

After the 120-hour probationary period, the motor carrier must ensure the apprentice completes a 280-hour probationary period. The apprentice must:

1) Complete 280 hours of on-duty time. 160 hours shall be driving time in a CMV.

2) Is competent in:

- Backing and Maneuvering in Close Quarters
- Pre-trip Inspections
- Rueling Procedures
- Weighing Loads, Weight Distribution, Sliding Tandems, Coupling and Uncoupling Procedures
- Trip Planning, Truck Routes, Map Reading, Navigation, and Permits

Trainer Requirements

1. Is > 26 years of age
2. Has held a commercial driver's license for the 2-year period ending on the date on which the individual serves as an experienced driver
3. During the 2-year period ending on the date on which the individual serves as an experienced driver, has had no: Preventable accidents reportable to the Department Pointed Moving Violations
4. Has a minimum of 5 years of experience driving a CMV in interstate commerce

Carrier Requirements

The motor carrier must meet the following standards:

1. Proper operating authority, if required, and registration
2. Must have at least the minimum levels of financial responsibility required by the FMCSRs
3. Must not be a high or moderate risk motor carrier as defined in the Agency's Federal Register notice titled, "Notification of Changes to the Definition of a High Risk Motor Carrier and Associated Investigation"
4. Must not have a conditional or unsatisfactory safety rating
5. Must not have any open enforcement actions in the previous 6 years
6. Must not have a crash rate above the national average
7. Must not have a driver OOS rate above the national average
8. Must not have a vehicle OOS rate above the national average

To request a compliance package, email lindsey@nextgentrucking.org
***Free to NextGen members or can be purchased [here](#).**

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Apprentice Requirements

1. Had more than one license (except for a military license)
2. Had his or her license suspended, revoked, cancelled or disqualified for a violation related to 49 CFR 383.51 in any State
3. Had any conviction for a violation of military, State, or local law relating to motor vehicle traffic control (other than parking violation) arising in connection with any traffic crash and have no record of a crash in which he/she was at fault
4. Had been convicted of any violations described below in any type of motor vehicle:
 - Under the influence of alcohol as prescribed by State law
 - Under the influence of a controlled substance
 - Had an alcohol concentration of 0.04 or greater while operating a CMV
 - Refused to take an alcohol test as required by a State under its implied consent laws
 - Left the scene of a crash
 - Used the vehicle to commit a felony
 - Drove a CMV while CDL is revoked, suspended, cancelled or is disqualified from operating a CMV
 - Caused a fatality through the negligent operation of a CMV
 - Had more than one conviction for any of the violations described below in any type of motor vehicle:
 - o Drove recklessly, as defined by State or local law or regulation
 - o Drove a CMV without the required CDL
 - o Violated a State or local law or ordinance prohibiting texting while driving
 - o Violated a State or local law or ordinance restricting or prohibiting the use of a hand held mobile telephone while driving

Technology Requirements

During both probationary periods, the employing motor carrier must ensure the apprentice only drives a CMV that has:

- Automatic manual or auto transmission
- Active braking collision mitigation system
- Forward-facing video event capture system
- Governed speed of 65 miles per hour at the pedal and under adaptive cruise control

The apprentice must also agree to the release of specific information by their employing motor carrier, to FMCSA for purposes of the pilot program; meet all FMCSR requirements (except age) for operating a CMV in interstate commerce; operate primarily in interstate commerce; and, if selected; maintain a good driving record.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
OR PROGRAM DEFINITIONS, VISIT:
[FMCSA WEBSITE LINK HERE](#)**