# **ARE YOU ELIGIBLE?**

To participate in the Military Skills Test Waiver Program, you must have held a military driver's license and have at least two years of safe military driving experience (including no disqualifications, suspensions, or license revocations). Military drivers must apply within one year before or one year after leaving a military position that required the operation of a commercial motor vehicle.

To participate in the Safe Driver Apprenticeship Pilot (SDAP) Program, you must hold an intrastate commercial driver's license and meet certain safety requirements and have a safe driving history.

Apprentice drivers must apply and be accepted by an approved motor carrier and complete required training.

#### **LEARN MORE**

Visit FMCSA's website, Military Driver Programs Section www.fmcsa.dot.gov/military

#### **CONTACT US**





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### FMCSA MILITARY DRIVER PROGRAMS

Helping Safe, Experienced Drivers Move Into Civilian Bus & Truck Driving Careers



April 2024 FMCSA-MCE-19-005





### YOUR MILITARY DRIVING EXPERIENCE + FMCSA PROGRAMS =

## AN EASIER TRANSITION

Skilled and experienced commercial truck and bus drivers are in high demand.

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) understands the importance of filling commercial motor vehicle (CMV) driver vacancies with responsible, well-qualified drivers. This aligns with FMCSA's mission to increase CMV safety and reduce crashes involving CMVs.

If you have military driving experience — regardless of whether you are in the Reserve or National Guard, a veteran, or transitioning from active duty you are an excellent candidate for a transportation career. In addition to your training, skills and experience, you bring responsibility and discipline to a civilian career.

## WHAT PROGRAMS ARE AVAILABLE?

FMCSA has several programs that help make it easier, quicker, and less expensive for military personnel to obtain a Commercial Driver's License (CDL) and transition to a civilian CMV driving career.

#### THE MILITARY SKILLS TEST WAIVER PROGRAM

This program exempts qualified individuals from skills testing to obtain a CDL. Every state participates in this waiver program. You can learn more about the program on the FMCSA website. To determine the specific requirements and apply for your state's waiver program, visit your state's Commercial Driver's License website which is listed on the FMCSA website.

### THE EVEN EXCHANGE PROGRAM (KNOWLEDGE TEST WAIVER)

This program allows qualified military drivers to be exempt from the knowledge test to obtain a CDL. When used in conjunction with the Military Skills Test Waiver, this allows a driver to exchange a military license for a CDL. Drivers must provide proof of their medical certificate to apply. Visit the FMCSA website to determine if your state currently participates.

#### SAFE DRIVER APPRENTICESHIP PILOT PROGRAM

This program is designed to assess the safety impacts of allowing qualified apprentice drivers who are ages 18-20 and have an intrastate CDL to operate CMVs in interstate commerce. Participating drivers may not operate tankers or transport hazardous materials or passengers. To learn more about this program, visit https://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/sdap.

### THE COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLE OPERATOR SAFETY TRAINING GRANT PROGRAM

This program provides federal funding to educational institutions that assist students, especially current or former members of the United States Armed Forces (including National Guard and reserve members) and their spouses, in receiving training to transition into the CMV industry. Learn more and find a list of schools at https://ai.fmcsa.dot.gov/Grants/CMVOST.aspx.

## WHAT'S IN IT FOR YOU?

If you have relevant military driving experience, you can transition to a stable civilian CMV driving job.

Commercial truck and bus drivers benefit from career stability and job opportunities available nationwide. You can operate independently or as an employee for a commercial transportation company. Qualified drivers can be hired quickly and may receive hiring incentives, such as bonuses.

