

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 Under 21 Military CDL Pilot Program or Even Exchange Program, you must have relevant military driving training and experience. You must also have a safe driving history. For the Under 21 Pilot Program, you must be under 21 years of age to participate.

LEARN MORE

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

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FMCSA MILITARY DRIVER PROGRAMS

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





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.

THE UNDER 21 MILITARY CDL PILOT PROGRAM

This program is designed to assess the safety impacts of allowing qualified military personnel who are ages 18-20 to operate CMVs in interstate commerce. Participating drivers may not operate tankers or transport hazardous materials or passengers. To learn more about participating in the Under 21 Military CDL Pilot, visit the FMCSA website.

THE COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLE OPERATOR SAFETY TRAINING GRANT PROGRAM

This program assists current or former members of the United States Armed Forces (including National Guard and reserve members) and their spouses in receiving training to transition to the motor carrier industry. To learn more, visit the FMCSA website.

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.

If you're currently serving in the Reserve or National Guard you can drive and serve your country at the same time. If you lack military driving experience, you may wish to explore changing occupational specialties to gain relevant skills.

