

What can you do with a major Commercial Truck Driving?

Campus(s) program is offered: North Metro Campus

What are the most likely job titles one can expect to qualify for after completing this program?

- City Pickup and Delivery Driver
- Local Driver
- Regional Driver
- Over-the-Road Driver
- Dispatcher, Warehousing, Yard Jokey, Switcher
- Safety Supervisor / Logistics Management
- Intermodal, Material Management and Route Sales / Package Driver
- Owner/Operator Driver

What do students express as the thing they enjoy the most about this program?

Students like the new experience of operating the trucks, taking trips, the camaraderie among the students and instructors, job placement, onsite testing.

What is the least?

Students do not enjoy the waiting involved for their turn to drive and the classroom part can be a bit boring.

What are some typical misconceptions about this program of study?

The actual hands on part of the course, backing of the trucks. The majority of students have the idea that the course will be a breeze, easy to back and drive on the roads. The idea comes from them seeing the big trucks in operation on the highways and the fact they drive an automobile, this has them thinking that it could not be that difficult to learn.

What are some essential skills and abilities a student needs to have in order to be successful in program of study?

- Operation and Control
- Time Management
- Critical Thinking
- Reading Comprehension
- Organization
- Judgment and Decision Making
- Attention to Detail and Active Listening
- Adaptability and Flexibility

What are typical skills and abilities that a student gains once he/she has completed the program of study?

- Obtain load and trip information as required; Perform a vehicle and load inspection for each trip
- Use resources effectively to plan a route and estimate expenses for any trip
- Drive a tractor trailer competently on all types of roads and deliver a load safely and efficiently
- Pass the state of GA written test: Air Brake, Combination, Doubles/Triples, Tanker & Haz-Mat Test
- Pass the Vehicle Inspection, Basic Control Skills and Road Driving skills test
- Demonstrate the personal and professional ethics and interpersonal skills that are expected in the

workplace

Typical work activities/occupational functions:

- Check vehicles to ensure that mechanical, safety, and emergency equipment is in good working order
- Maneuver trucks into loading or unloading positions, following signals from shipping and receiving personnel and checking that vehicle and loading equipment are properly positioned
- Collect delivery instructions from appropriate sources, verifying instructions and routes
- Maintain driver logs of working hours or of vehicle service or repair status, following applicable state and federal regulations
- Report vehicle defects, accidents, traffic violations, or damage to the vehicles
- Secure cargo for transport, using ropes, blocks, chain, binders, or covers
- Drive trucks to weigh stations before and after loading and along routes to document weights and to comply with state regulations
- Drive trucks with capacities greater than 26,001 Gross Vehicle Rate Rating, including tractor-trailer combinations with Gross Vehicle Rate ratings of up to 80,000lbs, to transport and deliver products, livestock, or other materials
- Obtain receipts or signatures for delivered goods and collect payment for services when required
- Inventory and inspect goods to be moved to determine quantities and conditions

What additional training would you recommend for a student who wants to go to the next level in this field?

It Some additional endorsements to have are Class A, Class A CDL allows for the legal operation of Class B and Class C commercial vehicle classifications. The different type endorsements include school bus endorsement passenger-carrying vehicle, Doubles / Triples trailer, Tank vehicle, and Hazardous Materials.

Do any of the occupational courses transfer easily?

No. This is a certificate program.

What are some common limitations, if any, in this program that students face?

Driving for many hours at a stretch, loading and unloading cargo, and making many deliveries can be tiring Making the decision to work as a long-haul driver is a major lifestyle choice-drivers may be away from home for days or weeks at a time, and they often spend a great deal of time alone.

Are there any exams/certifications that a student needs to take after completing the courses? Are these exams/certifications offered on campus?

Yes. However, these exams are not offered on campus.

Possible employment settings:

Schools, government agencies, moving companies, manufacturing/distributions facilities, car dealerships, wholesalers, construction companies/manufacturers, freight companies

Names of potential employers:

FedEx
State of Georgia
US Express
Crete Carriers
Roehl
Fastenal
McElroy
JB Hunt

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