

Minimum **Education** Requirements to Qualify for a CDL Driver Training Instructor

1. Have successfully completed an approved instructor preparation course for commercial (CDL) driver training instructors. Instructor preparation courses must be submitted to and approved by the director of the North Dakota Department of Transportation.
- Preparation courses conducted by a licensed commercial driver training school must consist of both classroom training and practical driving situations.
- At a minimum, **instructor** development training must consist of 40 hours of classroom and 80 hours of behind-the-wheel practical training.
- The behind the wheel practical training must consist of both actual driving and riding along and observing a licensed instructor during a student training session.

Qualifying Preparation Courses are: *(the instructor candidate only needs to complete **one** of these courses)*

1. Complete an instructor course at an approved CDL Commercial Driver Training School. Currently approved schools in North Dakota are:
  - a. Commercial Education and Safety, LLC  
1674 15<sup>th</sup> St W, Suite 4  
Dickinson, North Dakota 58601  
701-260-7057  
[admin@commercialeducationandsafety.com](mailto:admin@commercialeducationandsafety.com)

**Note:** Individuals completing *instructor courses* from out of state CDL Commercial Driver Training Schools may also qualify. *Submit a copy of your out of state Instructor Certification.* Individuals completing *instructor courses* from trucking/bus companies may also be considered. *Submit a copy of your instructor training signed by the company administrator.*

**OR**

2. Complete an approved CDL instructor course at an educational institution.

Available CDL focused educational institutions in the area are:

*(please call to confirm if the school offers CDL instructor courses)*

- a. TrainND at Williston State College  
866-938-6963 (Toll Free)  
701-774-4235 (Direct Phone) [www.trainnd.com](http://www.trainnd.com)
  
- b. Skills & Technology Training Center  
Fargo, ND 58102  
701-231-6900  
<http://register.fargo.ndscs.edu>
  
- c. Northland Technical College  
2022 Central Ave NE  
East Grand Forks, MN 56721  
800-451-3441  
218-793-2842  
[www.northlandcollege.edu](http://www.northlandcollege.edu)
  
- d. United Tribes Technical College (UTTC)  
3315 University Drive  
Bismarck, ND 58504  
701-255-3285 ext. 1241  
[www.uttc.edu](http://www.uttc.edu)
  
- e. North Valley Career and Technology Center  
1540 School Road  
Grafton, ND 58237  
701-352-3705  
[www.northvalley.k12.nd.us](http://www.northvalley.k12.nd.us)

**NOTE:** If starting a NEW Commercial (CDL) Driving School, the first step for the owner is to acquire an Instructor who has completed an approved CDL Instructor Preparation Course (see above). Task this instructor with developing the student classroom and behind the wheel **training curriculum**. Submit the student curriculum to the North Dakota Drivers License Division for approval. When approved, complete the remaining School and Instructor Requirements found at [www.dot.nd.gov](http://www.dot.nd.gov). Under the **green Public Tab**, click on **Drivers**. Click on **Drivers Education** Tab on the left side of the screen. Click on **Driver Training Schools**.

Minimum **Student Training Curriculum** Requirements to Qualify for a CDL Driving School

1. Must consist of a minimum of 20 Hours of Classroom Training.

Course content should cover topics listed in the North Dakota Drivers License Division CDL Manual (available at local Drivers License Office and online at [www.dot.nd.gov](http://www.dot.nd.gov))

Other valuable training resources are:

*The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations Handbook* available at [www.ijkeller.com](http://www.ijkeller.com)

*The Tractor-Trailer Driver Training Manual* available at [www.ijkeller.com](http://www.ijkeller.com)

2. Must consist of a minimum of 100 Hours of practical behind the wheel and range activities.

Course content should cover:

- The Practical Components from the North Dakota Drivers License Division CDL Manual (available at local Drivers License Offices and online at [www.dot.nd.gov](http://www.dot.nd.gov))

- Coupling and Uncoupling
- Basic Control/Backing Skills
- On-Road Driving in a variety of road, weather, and traffic conditions
- Pre-Trip vehicle inspection
- Hours of Service logs

Other valuable *training and student curriculum* resources are available from Professional Truck Driver Institute at [www.ptdi.org](http://www.ptdi.org)

- Click on **PTDI Standards** and select *Standards/Application Request Form*.