

4501-7-11

Training required for the operation of commercial motor vehicles.

(A) The following requirements apply to enterprises and instructors training drivers in the operation of commercial motor vehicles.

- (1) The enterprise shall make all required classroom and behind-the-wheel training available to the student within two hundred seventy days after the first lesson.
- (2) No enterprise shall provide more than ten hours of training to any one student in one calendar day.
- (3) Classroom instruction for beginning drivers shall total at least forty hours and include the use of the curriculum listed in this rule.
- (4) Classroom instruction shall include, at a minimum, the following topics:
 - (a) Traffic laws.
 - (b) Rules and regulations of the public utility commission of Ohio.
 - (c) Federal motor carrier safety regulations relating to the operation of trucks, commercial cars, commercial tractors, trailers and semi-tractors, and motor vehicles transporting flammable and/or hazardous cargo. In addition the enterprise shall provide the student with a copy of the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 49, parts 383 and 391 of the federal motor carrier safety regulations.
 - (d) Federal laws relating to vehicle brake systems, lighting, and display of emergency equipment.
 - (e) Registration and licensing laws.
 - (f) Special taxes such as the international registration plan (IRP), the international fuel tax alliance (IFTA), and the single state registration system (SSRS).
 - (g) Crash reporting and financial responsibility laws.
 - (h) The effects of driver fatigue.
 - (i) Safe driving practices.

- (j) Courteous driving practices.
 - (k) Routine services and pretrip safety check.
 - (l) Use of occupant protection devices, including their benefits and effectiveness in motor vehicle collisions.
 - (m) Sharing the road.
 - (n) Commercial driver license requirements.
 - (o) The effect of alcohol and drugs.
 - (p) Proper public thoroughfare railroad grade crossing procedure.
 - (q) The possibility of other vehicles traveling beside a commercial vehicle out of the driver's view known as the "no zone."
- (5) No more than forty per cent of the total classroom hours shall be devoted to showing educational videos, slides or films that relate to commercial driver training. No videos, films, or activities unrelated to safe commercial driving practices, commercial driver knowledge, or commercial driver skill shall be used.
- (6) Behind-the-wheel instruction shall total at least forty hours and include, at a minimum, all of the following topics:
- (a) Starting.
 - (b) Stopping.
 - (c) Turning.
 - (d) Shifting.
 - (e) Braking.
 - (f) Parking.

- (g) Docking.
 - (h) Hooking up and unhooking trailers and semi-trailers.
 - (i) Display of emergency equipment.
 - (j) Use of hazard lighting systems.
 - (k) Checking and servicing the parts of commercial motor vehicles.
 - (l) Sharing the road.
 - (m) Safe driving practices.
 - (n) Proper public thoroughfare railroad grade crossing procedure.
- (7) No less than ten hours of instruction behind-the-wheel on off-highway ranges. At least four hours of instruction shall be given off the highway and behind-the-wheel before any on-highway, behind-the-wheel instruction can be offered.
- (8) No less than ten hours of behind-the-wheel instruction on streets and highways with normal traffic.
- (9) Twenty hours of behind-the-wheel instruction may be used either for on-highway or off-highway training. The authorizing official or training manager who may consider which behind-the-wheel training would be most beneficial to the student shall make such determination. A maximum of two hours of pre-trip and/or post trip instruction is to be credited toward the twenty hours of behind-the-wheel instruction required by this paragraph.
- (10) If a student is observing behind-the-wheel training of another student and not actually driving, such time shall not be credited to the student for behind-the-wheel training completed.
- (11) A minimum of one instructor, who is not an instructor restricted to the classroom, for every five vehicles shall be on the driving range at any time a student is operating a motor vehicle. At such times a maximum of two students shall be assigned to each vehicle. This rule allows a maximum of ten students per instructor during instruction on the range.

- (12) All behind-the-wheel training on streets and highways shall be under the direct supervision of a licensed instructor who is in the vehicle and seated in the front seat next to the driver.
- (B) Enterprises training drivers in the operation of commercial motor vehicles shall provide both classroom and behind-the-wheel instruction in the operation of commercial motor vehicles. Students shall be taught and supervised by a licensed instructor.
- (C) Classroom and behind-the-wheel instruction shall consist of no less than sixty minutes for each hour credited toward completion of the required instruction. Time taken for breaks in instruction shall not be included when calculating completion of the required instruction.

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