



Class A Commercial Driver's License Training Program

The Stark State College commercial driver training program is completed pursuant to Ohio's Administrative Code 4501-7-28 and fulfills all requirements of the federal Entry-Level Driver Training (ELDT) rule effective February 7, 2022. The Class A CDL training is summarized below.

- Stark State College (SSC) offers a minimum 192 hours of training time for Class A CDL trainees.
- CDL classes include the Ohio Department of Public Safety's (ODPS) mandatory topics and duration comprising a minimum of 40 hours classroom and 40 hours behind-the-wheel instruction. Students shall receive an ODPS Certificate of Completion once these hours are completed.
- SSC also certifies the additional training hours completed by the student for the purposes of pre-employment screening requirements. Typically, employers require a minimum of 160 hours of pre-employment training for new license holders.

Requirements for SSC's CDL Training:

1. Valid Ohio Driver's license with no driving restrictions, social security card, U.S. birth certificate or proof of legal presence in the United States. *CDL permit not required to start training.*
2. A 5-Panel Drug Screening (non-diluted, negative result outcome) is required to start training.
3. A Medical Examiner's Certificate (DOT physical) meeting the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulation standards must be obtained to start training.

There are two options for enrollment:

Option 1: Non-Credit Class A Commercial Driver's License (CDL): Students receive the training detailed above in five or eight weeks. The cost of the non-credit program is \$6,985.20. Non-credit is defined as a student not pursuing a college degree or certificate. *This option is NOT eligible for federal financial aid.*

Some students may qualify for funding through other programs. See FAQ Item 14 for details or attend an info session to learn more.

Option 2: College Credit Commercial Driver's License Career Enhancement Certificate (CDL CEC): The cost of the college credit CDL CEC is \$7,913.60. It includes all training in **Option 1, plus three additional classes** comprising SSC's CDL CEC and can be completed in as little one 16-week semester.

The CDL CEC credit courses provide the student with in-demand skills and certifications for the transportation industry. *Students enrolled and intending to complete CDL CEC may apply for federal financial aid by completing a FAFSA.*



Course Delivery Options

SSC's CDL training classes are offered on the following schedule:

Full-Time Day Track – 5 Weeks

Monday – Friday 8am – 4pm

Evening/Weekend – 8 Weeks:

4 nights/week plus every Saturday

Monday thru Thursday 5:30-9:30pm

Saturday 8am – 5:30pm

The additional classes (ENV 123, 124, 221) comprising the CDL CEC are offered each Fall, Spring, and Summer semester at SSC

How to enroll in Non-credit Class A CDL training (Option 1)

- Attend an Info Session to discuss the program. Register at www.starkstate.edu/CDL.
- Self-register and pay for tuition online at www.starkstate.edu/CDL OR
- Schedule an appointment with the [CDL enrollment specialist](#) to register and pay for classes.
- Employers seeking to enroll employees can [contact the CDL Specialist](#) for assistance
- **Payment due in full to schedule a class.**

How to apply for college credit CDL Career Enhancement Certificate training

1. Apply online to Stark State College at starkstate.edu.
2. Request that your official transcripts be sent directly to SSC. This includes official high school or GED transcript and college transcripts (if applicable).
3. Demonstrate reading proficiency by taking the Accuplacer reading assessment at SSC **or** providing your ACT/SAT score (within last 5 years) **or** prior college credit.
4. If you plan to apply for federal financial aid, complete your FAFSA at fafsa.gov. Stark State's school code is 011141. Please note: students must intend to pursue and complete the CDL CEC as a federal financial aid eligibility requirement.
5. **Financial Aid/Funding must be fully in place to schedule for classes.** Once these requirements are completed, schedule an appointment at CDL@starkstate.edu, for information on the CDL program and to register for classes.



The CDL CEC comprises 16 credit hours of coursework summarized in the following table.

Course Number	Course Title	Course Credits	Employment Notes
CDL121	CDL Class A – Safe Operation and Control	6	CDL Training in Option 1 is contained in these class offerings. Successful course completions provide the opportunity to earn the CDL Class A License.
CDL122	CDL Class A – Advanced Operations and Maintenance	6	
ENV123	OSHA 10-Hour General Safety (two days of in-person class)	1	Required for access to certain job sites. Successful course completion provides the opportunity to earn OSHA 10-hour General Industry Certification.
ENV124	Transportation Hazardous Material Training (offered fully online)	1	Covering placarding and DOT requirements for certain loads and routes. DOT Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration: DOT and PHMSA Hazardous Materials Initial Training Certificate.
ENV221	OSHA 40-Hour HAZWOPER (offered online plus two days of in-person class for lab)	2	Required to haul hazardous materials and access site where hazardous materials are present. Successful course completion provides the opportunity to earn OSHA 40 Hour HAZWOPER Certification.

CDL – Commercial Driver's License

OSHA – Occupational Safety & Health Administration

DOT – Department of Transportation

HAZWOPER - Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response



Frequently Asked Questions

1. **Where is the program located?**

The CDL Training Center is located at 2270 Picton Parkway, Akron 44312. Student services, including financial aid & registration, are available at the Akron or Main Campus in North Canton.

2. **What is required to start the CDL driving classes?**

You must have a valid Ohio driver's license. After meeting the initial requirements for admission to SSC (see page 1) and securing funding to pay for the program, your next step will be to meet with our program specialist to schedule classes. Then you must screen for a five-panel drug assessment and DOT physical at your own expense. A social security card and U.S. birth certificate or verification of legal presence in the US is also required.

3. **When is the next CDL class?**

Day and evening CDL classes are staggered every 3-4 weeks year-round. Our small class sizes tend to fill up quickly so there could be a waiting period before you can start training. **Enrollment is on a first-come, first served basis after a student is determined to be eligible and has secured funding to pay for the program or is prepared to make their tuition payment in full.**

Students completing the CDL CEC can enroll in ENV123, ENV124 and ENV221 first and then complete CDL training afterward.

4. **What can I expect from the truck driving classes?**

The first 40 hours of class will prepare you to take your temporary permit test. The second 40 hours consists of mandatory, state required topics and HazMat endorsement training. The remaining 112 hours (three weeks for day program and five weeks for the night program) will involve pre-trip and maneuvers at our training range and over-the-road driver's training. Behind the Wheel training time, Instructor: Student ratios and Student:Truck ratios are established in Ohio Administrative Code 4501-7-28. Circumstances beyond our control (breakdowns, weather) may result in modified scheduling to maintain these ratios.

5. **Do I need my CDL learner's permit to start the class?**

No. We will prepare you to take your CDL temporary permit test the first week of class. We will also prepare you to take the hazardous, tanker, and doubles and triples endorsement written exams at that time. Additional testing fees apply.

6. **Should I obtain my CDL learner's permit before class?**

All students will receive the same preparatory training during the first 40 hours of classroom time regardless of whether they have a learner's permit in hand. Preparing ahead of time or having the permit can be beneficial. However, **exercise caution when obtaining your permit unless you are certain that you will be able to start and complete your training.** Once a CDL permit is obtained, you will have six months to obtain your CDL. One six-month extension is allowed. However, if you do not obtain your CDL within that timeframe, then you must wait two years from the date of your first permit to apply for another permit.



7. When should I get my drug screen and DOT Physical?

You are responsible for submitting five-panel drug screen results AND copy of the medical examiner's certificate (DOT physical card) at least three (3) weeks before class begins to ensure a seat in the class. A convenient location can be discussed during your advising appointment.

8. I have points on my license. Is that ok?

If you have more than 2 points on your license, your prospects for employment will be more limited. It is very important to maintain a safe driving record, as it is the most important part of your resume regarding CDL employment. Students can view their Ohio driving record and BMV history at <https://bmvonline.dps.ohio.gov/> or obtain an official abstract at the local license bureau.

9. Can I use Federal Student Aid for this program?

Students enrolled and intending to complete the CDL CEC may apply for financial aid by completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at fafsa.gov. If your intent is only to complete the CDL training, you are not eligible for federal aid. Students enrolled in non-credit CDL courses are not eligible to apply for federal financial aid.

10. How much federal financial aid can I expect to receive?

For students enrolled and intending to complete the CDL CEC program, amounts are determined based on your eligibility as determined by the results of your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Federal grant awards are not sufficient enough to cover the full cost of the CDL CEC. Additional funding options are available. For more information, contact Gateway Student Services for assistance with FAFSA completion and funding and/or payment options.

11. Can I use my GI Bill or other military benefits for CDL training?

Yes! SSC is fully-accredited under the laws that provide VA educational benefits. CDL121/122 must be completed in a course offered for college credit. A "non-credit only" class is not eligible for VA benefits. For assistance with benefits, contact military services at 330.494.6170 ext. 4939.

12. Are there any out of pocket costs besides tuition?

- A temporary CDL permit in Ohio is \$28.50.
- DOT physical and 5-panel drug screen cost is approximately \$100-\$130 for both.
- Additional costs of \$86.50 - this is hazardous materials endorsement threat assessment program application fee for the HazMat endorsement (optional).
- CDL license \$43.50 and endorsements \$44.50 each (optional)

13. Is there any other financial assistance available?

Ohio Means Jobs (OMJ) has training assistance for income and criteria-eligible applicants. Expect the application approval process to take several weeks to complete. Please contact OMJ directly to apply and determine eligibility. Please visit <https://ifs.ohio.gov/owd/WIOA/map.stm>.

Other funding assistance may be available through Military Benefits, employer assistance, Opportunities for Ohioans with Disabilities, and Bureau of Worker's Compensation.

14. Do you offer CDL training other than Class A?

At this time, we are strictly focusing on running Class A CDL training and HazMat endorsement courses to the public. Our full course schedules are listed on our website and are not customizable.



15. What are the job outcomes for a Class A CDL and CDL CEC?

Safe drivers with a clean driving record are readily employable and in demand. Every company will have a supplemental training program for you when you start as a new driver. Your wages as a new driver trainee will typically go up once you are deemed safe enough to be an independent driver.

Class A over-the-road (OTR) jobs usually mean you'll travel around the country and be home on weekends, although there are many variations. Local trucking jobs also are available, with most paying hourly. Local routes include delivery of construction materials, sand and gravel, building supplies, trash collection and delivery services.

Individuals with criminal backgrounds or history are employable; employers operate on a case-by-case basis. Your options may be more limited than other individuals, but with 6-12 months of experience, those limitations can be significantly reduced.

16. Will you help me find employment after I complete my CDL program and Class A license?

We offer career services free of charge to assist you with resumes, interview preparation, job searching and more. Visit starkstate.edu/careerservices or call 330-966-5459 to schedule an appointment. SSC has relationships with employers who are looking to hire former students. Please visit our online career board, joinhandshake.com to search for positions. Additionally, employers may visit the CDL Training Center to discuss career opportunities with you.



2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR COMMERCIAL DRIVER'S LICENSE TRAINING COSTS

COST OF Non-Credit Class A Commercial Driver's License (CDL)

COST ITEM	AMOUNT
Course Instruction (equivalent to CDL 121/CDL122)	\$2,335.20
Commercial Driver's License Course Fee (equivalent to CDL121)	\$450.00
Commercial Driver's License Course Fee (equivalent to CDL122)	\$4,200.00
Total	\$6,985.20

Cost of Commercial Driver's License Career Enhancement Certificate (CDL CEC)

COST ITEM	AMOUNT
Tuition – (\$194.60 per credit hour x 16 credit hours)	\$3,133.60
Commercial Driver's License Course Fee – charged when taking CDL121	\$450.00
Commercial Driver's License Course Fee – charged when taking CDL122	\$4,200.00
One-Time Processing Fee – charged at the time of admission to the college	\$95.00
Security and Maintenance Fee – per semester, if taking 4 credit hours or more	\$35.00
Distance Learning Fee	\$20.00
Total	\$7,913.60

Additional Estimated Costs for both Non-Credit CDL and CDL CEC Program

COST ITEM	ESTIMATED COST
* Five-Panel Drug Screen (payable to the lab prior to start of class)	\$60.00
* DOT Physical (payable to the physician prior to start of class)	\$85.00
CDL Temporary Permit Fee (payable to Ohio BMV during weeks 1 or 2 of CDL121)	\$28.50
First CDL License (payable to Ohio BMV after completing course & passing final test)	\$43.50
Optional – CDL Additional Endorsement (payable to Ohio BMV at the time of testing)	\$44.50
Optional – Hazardous Materials Endorsement Threat Assessment Program Application fee for HAZMAT Endorsement (payable to Transportation Security Administration at time of application)	\$86.50
Total Estimated Costs	\$348.00

*** Five-Panel Drug Screen and DOT Physical is required three weeks prior to starting CDL Training Program**