



1.01 Commercial Learner's Permit

Section: 1. Credential Issuance

Effective Date: 03/03/1992

Revised Date: 09/15/2026

Authority:

Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations

49 C.F.R. 383.25

[R.S. 32:408](#)

To view Louisiana Statutes: <http://www.legis.state.la.us/>

Definitions:

- **Application Fee** – A fee assessed on a commercial driver's license (CDL) for processing the application for issuance. This fee is charged for **each** application.
- **Commercial Driver's License (CDL)** – A driver's license issued by the state driver's license agency, that specifically allows drivers to operate a commercial motor vehicle
- **Commercial Learner's Permit (CLP)** – A permit that only authorizes a person to practice on public roads with a qualified CDL holder accompanying the driver¹

Eligibility:

- Must be 18 years of age or older
 - If under the age of 21, the applicant must certify intrastate on the *Supplemental Form for CDL Application* ([DPSMV2211](#))
- Must provide proof of U.S. citizenship, lawful permanent residency, or have proof already on file.
- Must pass all knowledge exams prior to the issuance of the CLP
- Must have a valid Louisiana driver's license to qualify for a Louisiana issued CLP, without the "02" restriction (operating a vehicle only with a licensed driver)
 - **Out of State Applicants** - Out-of-state students who are attending a driver training school in Louisiana may use a CLP issued in their home state, in combination with a valid driver's license issued by the same state.

General:

- After February 6, 2022, the CLP holder must have completed training from an approved Entry-Level Driver Training (ELDT) provider before taking a skills test or before taking the written test for HAZMAT, for the first time.²
- All applicants shall obtain a CLP prior to the administration of a skills test and must follow all [Federal Regulations](#) for operating while permitted.
 - The CLP holder is not eligible to take the CDL skills test in the first fourteen (14) days after initial issuance of the CLP.

- If the CDL license is not issued after one (1) year from the issuance of the CLP, a CLP applicant will start the process all over and will be required to take any knowledge tests over again.
- If an individual is obtaining a CLP and the existing CDL has a Passenger and/or School Bus endorsement, the CLP must contain the Passenger and/or School Bus endorsement.
- When issuing a CLP, all previous CLPs must be surrendered. When issuing a CDL, all previous CLPs and previous driver's licenses must be surrendered.
- All CLPs issued must have their current valid Louisiana driver's license accompanying the CLP.
- **Endorsements:**
 - The only endorsements that can be issued on a CLP include:
 - **N** - Tank
 - **P** - Passenger
 - **S** - School Bus
 - Each endorsement indicated above will also have a corresponding restriction code. Restriction codes include:
 - **N** – Tank (**69**) restriction
 - **P** – Passenger (**07**) restriction
 - **S** - School Bus (**07**) restriction
- **Expiration Date** - A CLP is issued for up to one year
 - The term of the CLP cannot exceed one year from the date of initial issuance.

Required Documentation:

- [Proof of Louisiana Residency](#)
- Completed CDL Supplemental Form ([DPSMV2211](#))
- Have a current medical certification on file with the National Registry certifying the driver is qualified under the provisions of 49 CFR 391.41.
 - All CDL physicals must be performed by a medical examiner certified by the National Registry of Medical Examiners. Please visit the [National Registry](#) for a list of certified medical examiners.

Fees:

- **CDL Application Fee** - All applicants are required to pay a \$15.00 application fee.
 - If there is any attempt at cheating, the application fee is forfeited and all previously attempted CDL scores are void.
 - The applicant must schedule within (30) days to re-take the knowledge and/or skills test.
 - The applicant must wait one business day after the date cheating was suspected.

Related Policies:

Section 1, Policy [10.00, Knowledge Examinations for all Classes](#)

Section 1, Policy [12.00, Road Skills Tests](#)

References:

¹ – Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration. *How do I get a Commercial Driver's License*, retrieved from <https://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/registration/commercial-drivers-license/how-do-i-get-commercial-drivers-license>.

² – Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration. *Entry-Level Driver Training (ELDT)*, retrieved from <https://www.fmcsa.dot.gov/registration/commercial-drivers-license/entry-level-driver-training-eldt>.