



## CDL Class A Training Information

### **General information/requirements:**

- Prior to the start of training, participants must provide a copy of their CDL permit, DOT health card and negative drug screen results; be registered in the federal Drug & Alcohol Clearinghouse; and pass a driving background check (required to train using state vehicle).
- Training complies with the new federal entry-level driver training requirements that went into effect in February 2022.
- M State provides one-on-one training with an M State instructor.
- M State monitors student progress for the online training platform.
- An M State tractor/trailer is available for training. Own vehicle may be used.
- M State uses a manual transmission tractor and 53-foot flatbed trailer for training. The manual transmission tractor eliminates restrictions on the Class A CDL.
- M State instructor chaperones students to CDL testing. M State vehicle is available for use.

### **Class A CDL permit information:**

- DOT health/medical card is required to take the CLP test.
- CLP study guides are online – test can be taken at any DVS location. Be prepared to wait in line to take the CLP test.
- The CLP test has three parts: General Knowledge, Combination Vehicles and Air Brakes. Be prepared for all three parts.
- CLP is good for six months. Drivers have six months to complete the training after obtaining the CLP.
- The health/medical card and CLP are necessary to schedule the road (driving) test with DVS. Be aware that the wait time for a DVS road test appointment may be several weeks.

### **Federal drug and alcohol information:**

- Negative drug/alcohol screen must be within 30 days of start of training.
- The one-on-one range and road driving training are scheduled as close to the road test date as possible.
- It's best to have your CLP and schedule your CDL road test BEFORE completing the drug/alcohol screen.
- M State can provide detailed instructions on how to register in the Drug & Alcohol Clearinghouse, which is necessary before the start of training,

## **Training details:**

### **1. Theory instruction**

- a. Theory section is self-paced online training using D2L online learning platform.
- b. Training follows the “J. J. Keller® Entry-Level Driver Training Obtaining a CDL Student Manual.” We have J.J Keller manuals available for use if interested.
- c. Instruction covers 33 learning objectives with an estimated finish time of 20-30 hours.
- d. Must pass with a minimum score of 80 percent on learning objective assessments before advancing to the next section.

### **2. Behind the wheel – range**

- a. Training covers seven learning objectives as outlined in the current standard.
- b. Range training takes place in Wadena or Detroit Lakes, or in other locations where a suitable range training site is available.
- c. Training is delivered in five-hour modules. Students train according to skill level. Some students may take longer than others to complete this section.
- d. Students must successfully complete all objectives before advancing to the next section.

### **3. Behind the wheel – road**

- a. Training covers 12 learning objectives as outlined in the current standard.
- b. Training is delivered in five-hour modules.
- c. Estimated completion time of range/road training is 20 hours. Students train according to skill level. Some students may take longer than others to complete this section.
- d. Students must successfully complete all objectives before taking the behind the wheel CDL road test. Final training module includes chaperoning the student to the road test.