



In January 2015, an RV pulled into a truck stop in Virginia. Observant professional truck driver Kevin Kimmel recognized suspicious activity around that RV, which had pulled back by the truck line, and decided something was off. Instead of turning a blind eye, he made a call that brought law enforcement out to the scene within a few minutes. After interviewing the occupants of the vehicle, they discovered that a young woman, 20 years old, had been kidnapped from Iowa two weeks prior. She had been beaten, raped, her whole body burned by instruments heated on the RV stove, branded and starved. She was being sold by her traffickers, Laura Sorenson and Aldair Hodza, through sex ads on Craigslist, where men were purchasing her and then arriving at the RV to rape her. She was dying from malnutrition and the torture she was subjected to ... had the call not been made that brought law enforcement out to that truck stop, doctors said she would have died within the next few days. Now a recovering survivor, this young woman calls Kimmel her guardian angel. He calls himself a Trucker Against Trafficking.

Truckers Against Trafficking is a non-profit organization that has been working with the trucking industry since 2009 to provide the needed training and tools to enable members of the industry to both recognize human trafficking when they see it happening and to know what actions to take to enable law enforcement to effectively fight this crime. Through this training and these tools, truckers are becoming Everyday Heroes like Kevin Kimmel, who was also named TAT's 2015 Harriet Tubman Award winner.

One of the tools TAT provides is a wallet card with red flags to look for, questions to ask if you suspect someone is a victim and actionable information to report. This wallet card is available by App, from the appropriate App Store, on all smart phones, whether Android, iPhone or Windows format, as well as by emailing [tat.truckers@gmail.com](mailto:tat.truckers@gmail.com), for a version to carry in your wallet.

Additionally, TAT provides a powerful, 26-minute training video on its website ([www.truckersagainstrafficking.org](http://www.truckersagainstrafficking.org)), which, when watched along with taking and passing a short test, certifies drivers as TAT-Trained, a designation which can go on your resume. Because professional drivers often find themselves in locations frequented and exploited by human traffickers, they are in a unique position to recognize the signs of human trafficking and to make the call that can lead to victim recovery and perpetrator arrests. Get your wallet card today. Be an Everyday Hero! Make the call (1-888-3737-888); save lives!

Human trafficking is modern-day slavery. Traffickers use force, fraud and coercion to control their victims. Any minor engaged in commercial sex is a victim of human trafficking. Trafficking can occur in many locations, including truck stops, restaurants, rest areas, hotels/motels, strip clubs, private homes, etc. Truckers are the eyes and the ears of our nation's highways. If you see a minor working any of those areas or suspect that the person selling sex is under someone else's control in order to make a quota, call the National Hotline and report your tip:

**1-888-3737-888 (US) • 1-800-222-TIPS (Canada)**  
**01800-5533-000 (Mexico) • Text INFO or HELP to BeFree (233733)**

For law enforcement to open an investigation on your tip, they need "actionable information," and as many details as you can provide.

Specific tips helpful when reporting to the hotline would include:

- Descriptions of cars (make, model, color, license plate number, etc.) and people (height, weight, hair color, eye color, age, etc.)
- Take a picture if you can.
- Specific times and dates (When did you see the event in question take place? What day was it?)
- Addresses and locations where suspicious activity took place

## Make the Call, Save Lives.

### Questions to Ask:

- Do you keep your own money? If not, who does?
- Do your parents/siblings/relatives know where you are? If not, why not?
- When was the last time you saw your family?
- Are you physically or sexually abused? Are you or your family threatened? What is the nature of the threats?

### Trafficking Red Flags to Look For:

- Lack of knowledge of their community or whereabouts
- Restricted or controlled communication-not allowed to speak for self
- CB chatter about "commercial company" or flashing lights signaling "buyer" location
- Not in control of own identification documents (ID/passport)
- Any acknowledgement that she/he has a pimp and is making a quota
- Signs of branding or tattooing of trafficker's name (often on the neck)



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# Section 1

## INTRODUCTION

### This Section Covers

- **Commercial Driver License Tests**
- **Medical Requirements**
- **Driver Disqualifications**
- **Other Safety Rules**
- **International Registration Program**

There is a federal requirement that each state have minimum standards for the licensing of commercial drivers.

This manual provides driver license testing information for drivers who wish to obtain a commercial learner's permit (CLP) or a commercial driver license (CDL). This manual does NOT provide information on all the federal and state requirements needed before you can drive a commercial motor vehicle (CMV). If you require additional information, please call (919) 715-7000.

You must have a CDL to operate:

Any single vehicle with a gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) of 26,001 pounds or more.

A combination vehicle with a gross combination weight rating (GCWR) of 26,001 or more pounds, provided the GVWR of the vehicle(s) being towed is in excess of 10,000 pounds.

A vehicle designed to transport 16 or more passengers (including the driver).

Any size vehicle which requires hazardous material placards or is carrying material listed as a select agent or toxin in 42 CFR part 73. Federal regulations through the Department of Homeland Security require a background check and fingerprinting for the Hazardous Materials endorsement. Please visit the website <https://universalenroll.dhs.gov> for more information.

### CDL Classifications

The CDL vehicle classification included in the federal standard, together with the type of cargo to be transported, determine what type of CDL license and endorsement an applicant must apply for. There are three basic vehicle classes or groups:

**Class A Combination Vehicles.** Any combination of vehicles with gross combination weight rating (GCWR) of 26,001 or more pounds falls in Group A provided the GVWR of the vehicle(s) being towed is

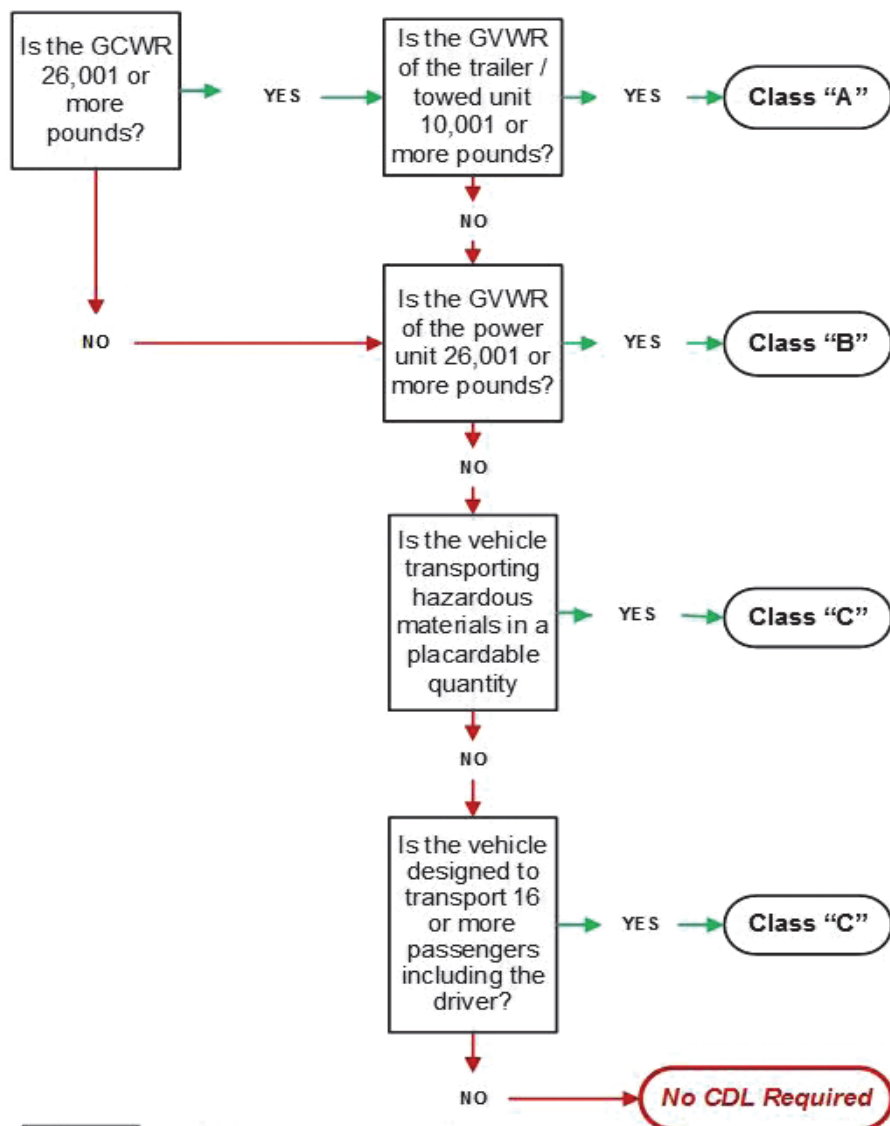
**more than** 10,000 pounds. Most Class A vehicles are trucks such as truck-tractor/semi-trailer or truck and trailer combinations. However, tractor-trailer buses may be found in a few communities. Driving a Class A vehicle requires considerably more skill and knowledge than driving vehicles in Classes B and C. Since these skills include those required to drive a B and C vehicle, a driver who has a Class A license also may drive vehicles in Classes B and C.

**Class B Heavy Straight Vehicles.** Any single vehicle with a GVWR of 26,001 or more pounds falls in Group B, or any such vehicle towing another vehicle **not** in excess of 10,000 pounds GVWR. Class B includes straight trucks and large buses, including articulated buses. Safely driving these heavy vehicles requires considerably more knowledge and skill than driving the small trucks and buses found in Class C. Since they include the skills required to drive Class C vehicles, drivers who have qualified for a Class B license may also drive vehicles in Class C.

**Class C Small Vehicles.** Any single vehicle with a GVWR less than 26,001 pounds falls in Group C, or any such vehicle towing another vehicle **not** in excess of 10,000 pounds GVWR. However, vehicles of this size are included in the CDL program only if they are: 1) Designed to carry 16 or more passengers including the driver, or (2) Used to transport hazardous materials in quantities requiring placarding under the Hazardous Materials Regulations (49 CFR Part 172, Subpart F) or is carrying material listed as a select agent or toxin in 42 CFR part 73.

There are a great variety of vehicles in Class C. Some rather large Class C vehicles may require more skill and knowledge to operate than do the smaller ones. However, the licensing category is based principally on the type of cargo carried. Because of the seriousness of an accident involving hazardous material or human passengers, the safe operation of even the smaller vehicles in Class C requires special knowledge and the drivers of these vehicles must have a CDL.

# Determining Class of CDL Required



## **Gross combination weight rating (GCWR)**

Means the value specified by the manufacturer of the power unit, if the value is displayed on the Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) certification label; or the sum of the gross vehicle weight ratings (GVWRs) or the gross vehicle weights (GVWs) of the power unit and the towed unit(s), or any combination thereof, that produces the highest value.

*(The underlined and italicized text above is for use by roadside enforcement only for the purpose of determining whether the driver/vehicle is subject to CDL regulations. It is not used to determine whether a vehicle is representative for the purposes of Skills testing).*

**Gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR)** means the value specified by the manufacturer as the loaded weight of a single vehicle.

Figure 1.1

**NOTE:** A bus may be Class A, B, or C depending on whether the GVWR is over 26,001 pounds or is a combination vehicle.

A material's hazard class reflects the risks associated with it. There are nine different hazard classes. The types of materials included in these nine classes are in Figure 9.1.

Hazardous Materials Class			
Class	Division	Name of Class or Division	Examples
1	1.1	Mass Explosion	Dynamite Flares Display Fireworks Ammunition Blasting Agents Explosive Devices
	1.2	Projection Hazard	
	1.3	Fire Hazard	
	1.4	Minor Explosion	
	1.5	Very Insensitive	
	1.6	Extremely Insensitive	
2	2.1	Flammable Gases	Propane Helium
	2.2	Non-Flammable Gases	
	2.3	Poisonous/Toxic Gases	Fluorine, Compressed Gases
3	-	Flammable Liquids	Gasoline
4	4.1	Flammable Solids	Ammonium Picrate, Wetted White Phosphorus Sodium
	4.2	Spontaneously Combustible	
	4.3	Dangerous When Wet	
5	5.1	Oxidizers	Ammonium Nitrate Methyl Ethyl Ketone Peroxide
	5.2	Organic Peroxides	
6	6.1	Poison (Toxic Material)	Potassium Cyanide
	6.2	Infectious Substances	Anthrax Virus
7	-	Radioactive	Uranium
8	-	Corrosives	Battery Fluid
9	-	Miscellaneous Hazardous Materials	Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCB)
None	-	ORM-D (Other Regulated Material-Domestic)	Food Flavorings, Medicines
	-	Combustible Liquids	Fuel Oil

Figure 9.1

A shipping paper describes the hazardous materials being transported. Shipping orders, bills of lading, and manifests are all shipping papers. Figure 9.6 shows an example shipping paper.

After an accident or hazardous materials spill or leak, you may be injured and unable to communicate the hazards of the materials you are transporting. Firefighters and police can prevent or reduce the amount of damage or injury at the scene if they know what hazardous materials are

being carried. Your life, and the lives of others, may depend on quickly locating the hazardous materials shipping papers. For that reason the rules require:

Shippers to describe hazardous materials correctly and include an emergency response telephone number on shipping papers.

Carriers and drivers to quickly identify hazardous materials shipping papers, or keep them on top of other shipping papers and keep the required emergency response information with the shipping papers.

Drivers to keep hazardous materials shipping papers:

In a pouch on the driver's door, or

In clear view within immediate reach while the seat belt is fastened while driving, or

On the driver's seat when out of the vehicle.

### 9.3.2 – Package Labels

Shippers put diamond-shaped hazard warning labels on most hazardous materials packages. These labels inform others of the hazard. If the diamond label won't fit on the package, shippers may put the label on a tag securely attached to the package. For example, compressed gas cylinders that will not hold a label will have tags or decals. Labels look like the examples in Figure 9.2.



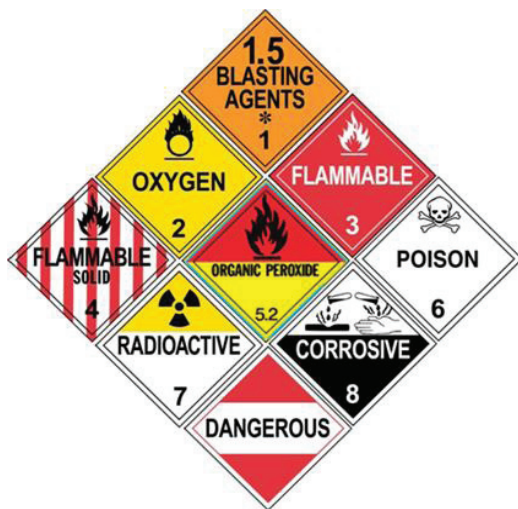
Examples of HAZMAT Labels. Figure 9.2



### 9.3.3 – Lists of Regulated Products

**Placards.** Placards are used to warn others of hazardous materials. Placards are signs put on the outside of a vehicle and on bulk packages, which identify the hazard class of the cargo. A placarded vehicle must have at least four identical placards.

They are put on the front, rear, and both sides of the vehicle. See Figure 9.3. Placards must be readable from all four directions. They are at least 250mm 9.84 inches square, square-on-point, in a diamond shape. Cargo tanks and other bulk packaging display the identification number of their contents on placards or orange panels or white square-on-point displays that are the same size as placards.



**Examples of HAZMAT Placards**  
**Figure 9.3**

Identification numbers are a four-digit code used by first responders to identify hazardous materials. An identification number may be used to identify more than one chemical. The letters "NA" or "UN" will precede the identification number. The United States Department of Transportation's Emergency Response Guidebook (ERG) lists the chemicals and the identification numbers assigned to them.

There are three main lists used by shippers, carriers, and drivers when trying to identify hazardous materials. Before transporting a material, look for its name on three lists. Some materials are on all lists, others on only one. Always check the following lists:

Section 172.101, the Hazardous Materials Table.

Appendix A to Section 172.101, the List of Hazardous Substances and Reportable Quantities.

Appendix B to Section 172.101, the List of Marine Pollutants.

**The Hazardous Materials Table.** Figure 9.4 shows part of the Hazardous Materials Table.

**Column 1** tells which shipping mode(s) the entry affects and other information concerning the shipping description. The next five columns show each material's shipping name, hazard class or division, identification number, packaging group, and required labels.

Six different symbols may appear in Column 1 of the table.

- (+) Shows the proper shipping name, hazard class, and packing group to use, even if the material doesn't meet the hazard class definition.
- (A) Means the hazardous material described in Column 2 is subject to the HMR only when offered or intended for transport by air unless it is a hazardous substance or hazardous waste.
- (W) Means the hazardous material described in Column 2 is subject to the HMR only when offered or intended for transportation by water unless it is a hazardous substance, hazardous waste, or marine pollutant.
- (D) Means the proper shipping name is appropriate for describing materials for domestic transportation, but may not be proper for international transportation.
- (I) Identifies a proper shipping name that is used to describe materials in international transportation. A different shipping name may be used when only domestic transportation is involved.
- (G) Means this hazardous material described in Column 2 is a generic shipping name. A generic shipping name must be accompanied by a technical name on the shipping paper. A technical name is a specific chemical that makes the product hazardous.

**Column 2** lists the proper shipping names and descriptions of regulated materials. Entries are in alphabetical order so you can more quickly find the right entry. The table shows proper shipping names in regular type. The shipping paper must show proper shipping names. Names shown in italics are not proper shipping names.

### 1.1.2 – Skills Tests

If you pass the required knowledge test(s), you can take the CDL skills test when you are eligible. The CDL Skills Test consists of three segments: Vehicle inspection, basic vehicle control, and on-road driving. You must take the segments in the order listed and must pass each one before moving to the next. You must take these tests in the type of vehicle for which you wish to be licensed. Any vehicle that has components marked or labeled cannot be used for the CDL Skills Test.

**Vehicle Inspection.** You will be tested to see if you know whether your vehicle is safe to drive. You will be asked to do a Vehicle inspection of your vehicle. You must point to/touch and name the item you are inspecting and explain to the examiner what you would inspect and why.

**Basic Vehicle Control.** You will be tested on your skill to control the vehicle. You will be asked to move your vehicle forward, backward, and turn it within a defined area. These areas may be marked with traffic lanes, cones, barriers, or something similar. The examiner will tell you how each control test is to be done.

**On-road Test.** You will be tested on your skill to safely drive your vehicle in a variety of traffic situations. The situations may include left and right turns, intersections, railroad crossings, curves, up and down grades, single or multi-lane roads, streets, or highways. The examiner will tell you where to drive.

Figure 1.2 details which sections of this manual you should study for each particular class of license and for each endorsement.

## 1.2 – Medical Documentation Requirements

Starting January 30, 2012 and no later than January 30, 2014, if you are applying for a Commercial Learner's Permit; or are renewing, upgrading, adding endorsements to a CDL; or transferring a CDL from another state, you are required to provide information to NC DMV regarding the type of commercial motor vehicle operation you drive in or expect to drive in with your CDL. Drivers operating in certain types of commerce will be required to submit a current medical examiner's certificate and/or any medical variance documents that you have been issued (i.e. Vision, Skills Performance or Diabetic waivers, or other exemptions) to NC DMV to obtain a "certified" medical status as part of your driving record. You may contact NC DMV at (919) 715-7000 or visit NC DMV's webpage <https://www.ncdot.gov/dmv/driver/commercial/> to obtain information regarding the requirement for submitting these documents.

If you are required to have a "certified" medical status and fail to provide and keep up-to-date your medical examiner's certificate you become "not-certified" and may lose your CDL.

For the purpose of complying with the new requirements for medical certification, it is important to know how you are using the CMV. The following information will help you decide how to self-certify:

### 1.2.1 – Interstate or Intrastate Commerce

Do you, or will you, use a CDL to operate a CMV in **interstate** or **intrastate commerce**?

**Interstate commerce** is when you drive a CMV:

From one State to another State or a foreign country;

Between two places within a State, but during part of the trip, the CMV crosses into another State or foreign country; or

Between two places within a State, but the cargo or passengers are part of a trip that began or will end in another State or foreign country.

**Intrastate commerce** is when you drive a CMV within a State and you do not meet any of the descriptions above for **interstate commerce**.

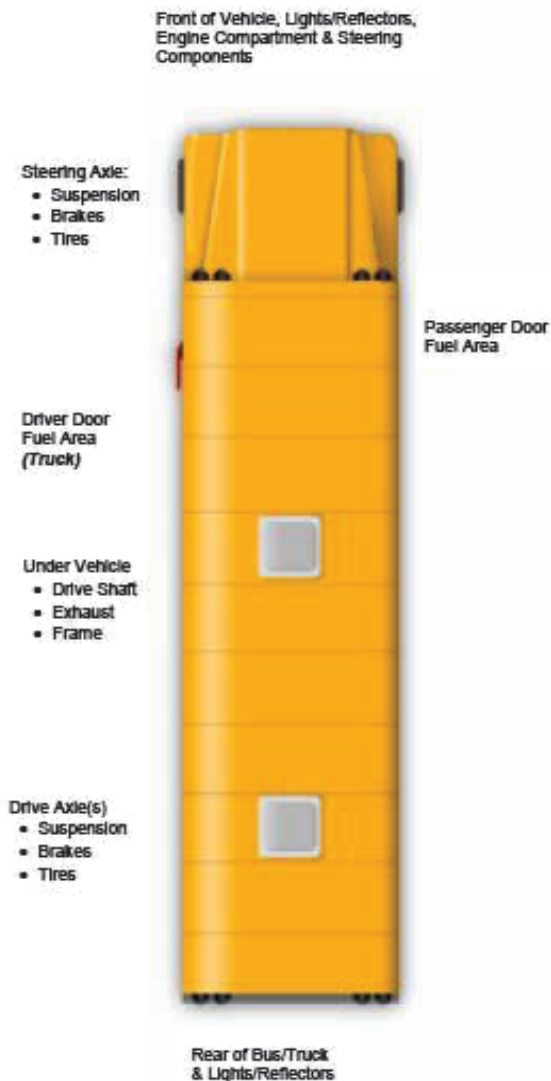
If you operate in both **intrastate commerce** and **interstate commerce**, you must choose **interstate commerce**.

## CDL Vehicle Inspection Memory Aid

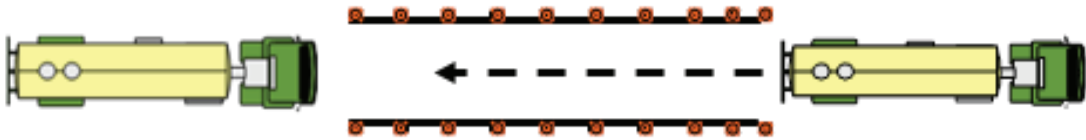
### Combination Vehicles



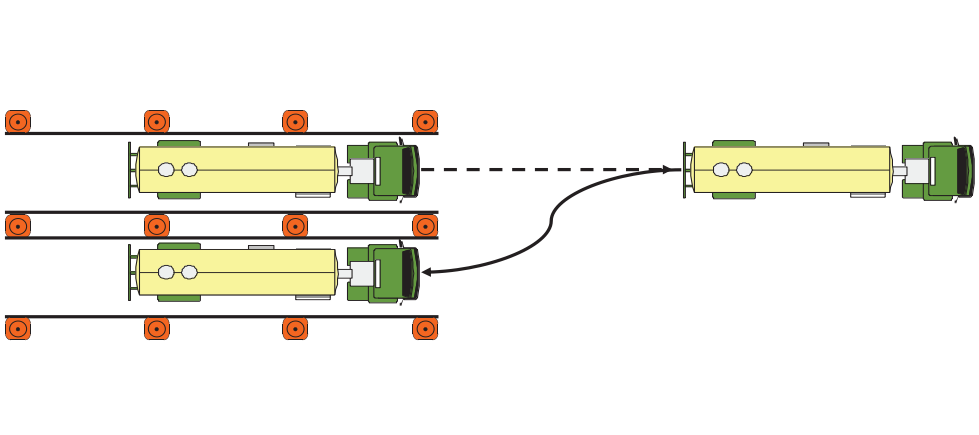
### Straight Truck or Bus



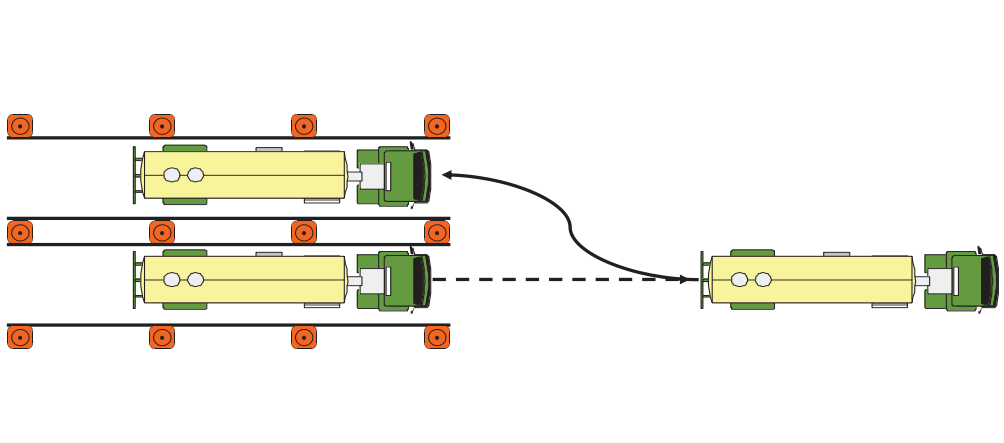
## Figure 12.1: Straight Line Backing



## Figure 12.2: Offset Back/Right

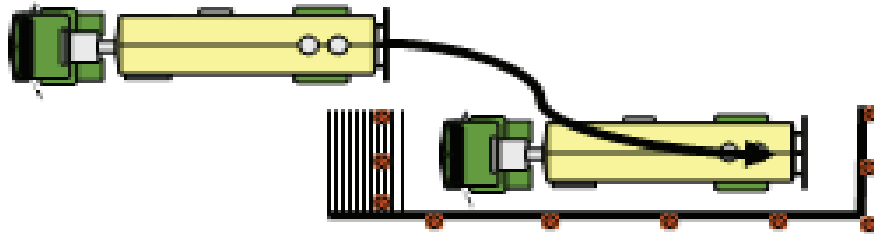


## Figure 12.3: Offset Back/Left

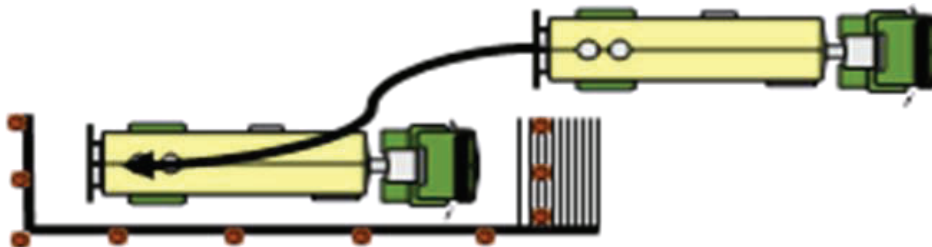




**Figure 12.4: Parallel Park (Driver Side)**



**Figure 12.5: Parallel Park (Conventional)**



### 1.2.3 – Self-Certification Statements

When completing an application for your CDL, you will be required to check the box next to the statement that describes your status. The actual statements on your application may vary from those shown below:

- ☐ **Interstate non-excepted:** I certify that I operate or expect to operate in interstate commerce, that I am subject to and meet the Federal DOT medical card requirements under 49 CFR part 391; and that I am required to obtain a medical examiner's certificate.
- ☐ **Interstate excepted:** I certify that I operate or expect to operate in interstate commerce, but engage exclusively in transportation or operations excepted under 49 CFR §§390.3(f), 391.2, 391.68 or 398.3 from all or parts of the qualification requirements of 49 CFR part 391; and that I am not required to obtain a medical examiner's certificate.
- ☐ **Intrastate non-excepted:** I certify that I operate or expect to operate entirely in intrastate commerce, that I am subject to and meet the medical requirements for my State; and that I am required to obtain a medical examiner's certificate.
- ☐ **Intrastate excepted:** I certify that I operate or expect to operate entirely in intrastate commerce, that I am not subject to the medical requirements for my State; and that I am not required to obtain a medical examiner's certificate.

All CDL holders are required to certify to **ONE** of the above categories. If you are required to have a DOT Medical Certificate, you are also required to provide a copy of your DOT Medical Certificate to the NC DMV. For more detailed information and to obtain a copy of the CDL self-certification form (Med-1) please visit <http://www.ncdot.gov/dmv/driver/commercial/>

#### **Where to send your information:**

**Fax:**

(919) 861-3915

**EMAIL:**

cdlmedical@ncdot.gov

**MAIL:**

NC Division of Motor Vehicles  
CDL Medical Certification Unit  
3126 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-3126

## 1.3 - CDL Disqualifications

### 1.3.1 – General

You may not drive a commercial motor vehicle if you are disqualified for any reason.

### 1.3.2 – Alcohol, Leaving the Scene of an Accident, and Commission of a Felony

It is illegal to operate a CMV if your blood alcohol concentration (BAC) is .04% or more. If you operate a CMV, you shall be deemed to have given your consent to alcohol testing.

You will lose your CDL for at least one year for a first offense for:

Driving a CMV if your blood alcohol concentration is .04% or higher.

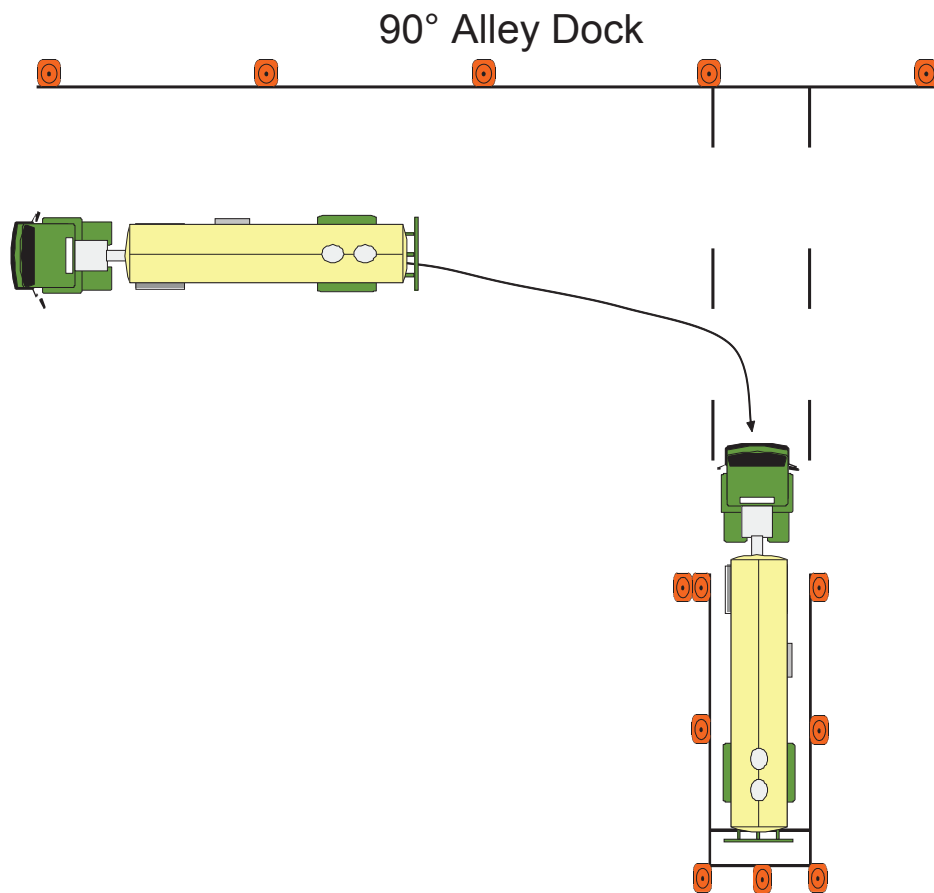
Driving a CMV under the influence of alcohol.

Refusing to undergo blood alcohol testing.

Driving a CMV while under the influence of a controlled substance.

Leaving the scene of an accident involving a CMV.

**Figure 12.6: Alley Dock**



For all drivers failing to obey a traffic control device or the directions of an enforcement official at the crossing.  
For all drivers failing to negotiate a crossing because of insufficient undercarriage clearance.

### **1.3.6 – Hazardous Materials Endorsement Background Check and Disqualifications**

If you require a hazardous materials endorsement you will be required to submit your fingerprints and be subject to a background check.

You will be denied or you will lose your hazardous materials endorsement if you:

Are not a lawful permanent resident of the United States.

Renounce your United States citizenship.

Are wanted or under indictment for certain felonies.

Have a conviction in military or civilian court for certain felonies.

Have been adjudicated as lacking mental capacity or have been involuntarily committed to a mental health facility as specified in §1572.109.

Are considered to pose a security threat as determined by the Transportation Security Administration.

You can complete the Transportation Security Administration HME driver application via the website <https://universalenroll.dhs.gov/> or by calling the Driver Service Center at **1-855-347-8371**. The operator at the Driver Service Center will guide you through the process and ensure the application is completed correctly.

Your fingerprints will be collected at one of five sites in North Carolina. You will be required to provide two forms of identification prior to being fingerprinted.

Contact TSA at **1-855-347-8371** or go to web site <https://universalenroll.dhs.gov/> to complete the application.

### **1.3.7 – Traffic Violations in Your Personal Vehicle**

The Motor Carrier Safety Improvement Act (MCSIA) of 1999 requires a CDL holder to be disqualified from operating a commercial motor vehicle if the CDL holder has been convicted of certain types of moving violations in their personal vehicle.

If your privilege to operate your personal vehicle is revoked, cancelled, or suspended due to violations of traffic control laws (other than parking violations) you will also lose your CDL driving privileges.

If your privilege to operate your personal vehicle is revoked, cancelled, or suspended due to alcohol, controlled substance or felony violations, you will lose your CDL for 1 year. If you are convicted of a second violation in your personal vehicle or CMV you will lose your CDL for life.

If your license to operate your personal vehicle is revoked, cancelled, or suspended you may not obtain a "hardship" license to operate a CMV.

## **1.4 – Other CDL Rules**

There are other federal and state rules that affect drivers operating CMVs in all states. Among them are:

You cannot have more than one license. If you break this rule, a court may fine you up to \$5,000 or put you in jail and keep your home state license and return any others.

You must notify your employer within 30 days of conviction for any traffic violations (except parking). This is true no matter what type of vehicle you were driving.

You must notify your motor vehicle licensing agency within 30 days if you are convicted in any other jurisdiction of any traffic violation (except parking). This is true no matter what type of vehicle you were driving.

## 1.7 – Social Security Requirements

To obtain a CDL or CLP all first time customers must provide a Social Security Number.

### Proof of Social Security Number:

- |                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| 1. Social Security Card | 2. Payroll Record                               |
| 3. 1099 Tax Form        | 4. Social Security Document reflecting the SSN  |
| 5. W-2 Form             | 6. Military Record reflecting the SSN           |
| 7. DD- 214              | 8. Medicaid or Medicare Card reflecting the SSN |

## 1.8 – Residency Requirements

**Proof of Residency in North Carolina:** All **first-time customers** must show proof of their NC residence address. This is in addition to showing proof of identity. One of the two forms of your identity documents may reflect your NC residence address. Documents that you may present as proof residency include:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. Any document issued by this state or county, city, or the federal government | 2. House lease or contract, mortgage statement, property or income tax statement |
| 3. NC vehicle registration card or title  | 4. Preprinted financial statement by the institution                             |
| 5. NC voter precinct card   | 6. School records  |
| 7. Military orders/documents  | 8. NC vehicle insurance policy   |
| 9. Utility bill or cable bill   | 10. Letter from homeless shelter   |

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT <http://www.ncdot.gov/dmv>

## N.C. Real ID

<https://www.ncdot.gov/dmv/driver/realid/>

The N.C. REAL ID will soon make it more convenient for you when you need to board a commercial airplane or visit a military base or other federal facility.

Beginning in 2020, federal agencies will enforce tougher security standards at airport check-ins and federal buildings, military installations and nuclear facilities.

The optional N.C. REAL ID is just like your traditional license or ID but has a gold star endorsement at the top. Rather not get an N.C. REAL ID license or ID? You'll still be able to board flights and enter federal facilities, but you will need to provide your license or ID along with some [additional documentation](#).

### Getting an N.C. REAL ID

Getting an N.C. REAL ID driver license or ID card costs the same as any other license or ID, and the process is similar. Simply go to your nearest N.C. Division of Motor Vehicles [driver license office](#) with [documentation that proves:](#)

- Your identity and date of birth
- You have a Social Security number
- Your residency
- Your legal presence (lawful status)

[View a list of documents that are acceptable proof.](#)

To confirm identity and residency under the federal law, NCDMV scans these documents and permanently and securely stores them in your DMV record.

You can expect to receive your N.C. REAL ID driver license or ID card by mail in 10-15 business days.



## 1.9 – Where are Commercial Skills Tests Given?

Skills tests are provided at many driver license locations throughout the State. Skills tests are also given by certified third party testers to employees of their company.

**Knowledge tests are provided at all full service driver license locations.**

**Listed below are the approved skills test sites for the North Carolina Division of Motor Vehicles:**

### DMV SKILLS TEST SITES

<u>DMV OFFICE:</u>	<u>SITE LOCATION:</u>	<u>TELEPHONE:</u>
Andrews	1440 Main St	(828) 321-1442
Asheville (West)	1624 Patton Avenue	(828) 251-6065
Elizabeth City	US 17, South	(252) 331-4776
Elkin Class B & C	1687 N. Bridge St.	(336) 835-5247
Graham	111 E. Crescent Square Dr.	(336) 570-6812
Greensboro (West) Class B & C	2391 Coliseum Blvd.	(336) 334-5438
Greenville	703 Greenville Blvd. SE, Suite 12	(252) 830-3456
Lumberton Skills Test Only	2479 E. Fifth St.	(910) 618-5527 (866) 484-4930
Monroe	US 74 W.	(704) 283-4264
Nags Head	2808 S. Croatan Hwy	(252) 480-6465
New Bern	2106 Neuse Blvd.	(252) 514-4734
Raleigh (West)	3231 Avent Ferry Rd.	(919) 816-9128
Rocky Mount	2617 N. Wesleyan Blvd., 301 N	(252) 442-8905
Smithfield	3783 US 301 South	(919) 934-3187
Statesville Skills Test Only	1028 Turnersburg Hwy.	(704) 876-1052 (855) 220-1313
Stedman	4705 Clinton Rd	(910) 483-3096
Wilmington (North)	US 17 N One Station Road	(910) 350-2005
Wilson	1822 Goldsboro St. SW	(252) 243-4072
Winston-Salem (North)	3637 N. Patterson Ave.	(336) 761-2259

**The skills test(s) can be taken once daily by appointment only.**

**You must hold a CLP for 14 days prior to skills testing.**

Please make your appointment as far in advance as possible. If for any reason you cannot make your appointment, please give at least a 24-hour notice so we may schedule others in need of the skills test. This will assist us in eliminating unnecessary waiting time. The commercial motor vehicle to be used for the test must be road ready. The examiner will inspect the vehicle to make sure that it is safe to use during the road test. **The vehicle you bring in for the road test must represent the proper classification for which the commercial driver license is being issued. The vehicle(s) must have the manufacturer labels showing the GVWR of the vehicle(s).**

Don't turn wide to the left as you start the turn. A following driver may think you are turning left and try to pass you on the right. You may crash into the other vehicle as you complete your turn.

If you must cross into the oncoming lane to make a turn, watch out for vehicles coming toward you. Give them room to go by or to stop. However, don't back up for them, because you might hit someone behind you. See Figure 2.13.

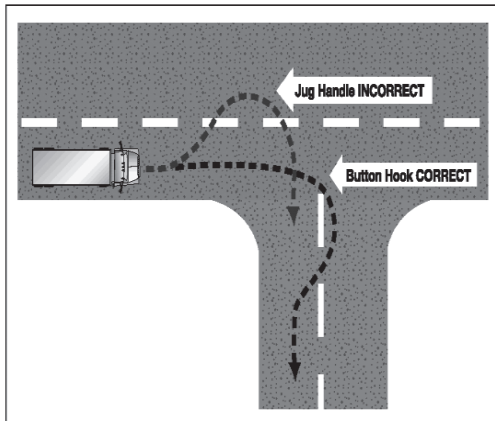


Figure 2.13

**Left Turns.** On a left turn, make sure you have reached the center of the intersection before you start the left turn. If you turn too soon, the left side of your vehicle may hit another vehicle because of off-tracking.

If there are two turning lanes, always take the right turn lane. Don't start in the inside lane because you may have to swing right to make the turn. Drivers on your left can be more readily seen. See Figure 2.14.

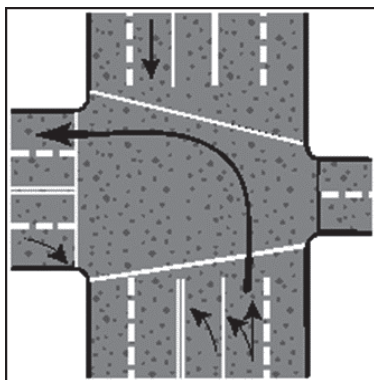


Figure 2.14

### 2.7.7 – Space Needed to Cross or Enter Traffic

Be aware of the size and weight of your vehicle when you cross or enter traffic. Here are some important things to keep in mind.

Because of slow acceleration and the space large vehicles require, you may need a much larger gap to enter traffic than you would in a car.

Acceleration varies with the load. Allow more room if your vehicle is heavily loaded.

Before you start across a road, make sure you can get all the way across before traffic reaches you.

## 2.8 – Seeing Hazards

### 2.8.1 – Importance of Seeing Hazards

**What Is a Hazard?** A hazard is any road condition or other road user (driver, bicyclist, pedestrian) that is a possible danger. For example, a car in front of you is headed toward the freeway exit, but his brake lights come on and he begins braking hard. This could mean that the driver is uncertain about taking the off ramp. He might suddenly return to the highway. This car is a hazard. If the driver of the car cuts in front of you, it is no longer just a hazard; it is an emergency.

**Seeing Hazards Lets You Be Prepared.** You will have more time to act if you see hazards before they become emergencies. In the example above, you might make a lane change or slow down to prevent a crash if the car suddenly cuts in front of you. Seeing this hazard gives you time to check your mirrors and signal a lane change. Being prepared reduces the danger. A driver who did not see the hazard until the slow car pulled back on the highway in front of him would have to do something very suddenly. Sudden braking or a quick lane change is much more likely to lead to a crash.

**Learning to See Hazards.** There are often clues that will help you see hazards. The more you drive, the better you can learn to see hazards. This section will talk about hazards that you should be aware of.

### 2.8.2 – Hazardous Roads

#### [Move-Over Laws]

[The incidents of law enforcement officers, emergency medical services, fire department personnel and people working on the road are being struck while performing duties at the roadside are increasing at a frightening pace. To lessen the problem, move-over laws have been enacted, which require drivers to slow and change lanes when approaching a roadside incident or emergency vehicle. Signs are posted on roadways in states that have such laws].

[When approaching an authorized emergency vehicle stopped on the roadside or a work zone, you should proceed with caution by slowing and yielding the right-of-way by making a lane change into a lane not next to that of the authorized emergency vehicle or work zone if safety and traffic conditions permit. If a lane change is unsafe, slow down and proceed with caution while maintaining a safe speed for traffic conditions].

Slow down and be very careful if you see any of the following road hazards.

**Work Zones.** When people are working on the road, it is a hazard. There may be narrower lanes, sharp turns, or uneven surfaces. Other drivers are often distracted and drive unsafely. Workers and construction vehicles may get in the way. Drive slowly and carefully near work zones. Use your four-way flashers or brake lights to warn drivers behind you.

**Drop Off.** Sometimes the pavement drops off sharply near the edge of the road. Driving too near the edge can tilt your vehicle toward the side of the road. This can cause the top of your vehicle to hit roadside objects (signs, tree limbs). Also, it can be hard to steer as you cross the drop off, going off the road, or coming back on.

**Foreign Objects.** Things that have fallen on the road can be hazards. They can be a danger to your tires and wheel rims. They can damage electrical and brake lines. They can be caught between dual tires and cause severe damage. Some obstacles that appear to be harmless can be very dangerous. For example, cardboard boxes may be empty, but they may also contain some solid or heavy material capable of causing damage. The same is true of paper and cloth sacks. It is important to remain alert for objects of all sorts, so you can see them early enough to avoid them without making sudden, unsafe moves.

**Off Ramps/On Ramps.** Freeway and turnpike exits can be particularly dangerous for commercial vehicles. Off ramps and on ramps often have speed limit signs posted. Remember, these speeds may be safe for automobiles, but may not be safe for larger vehicles or heavily loaded vehicles. Exits that go downhill and turn at the same time can be especially dangerous. The downgrade makes it difficult to reduce speed. Braking and turning at the same time can be a dangerous practice. Make sure you are going slowly enough before you get on the curved part of an off ramp or on ramp.

### 2.8.3 – Drivers Who Are Hazards

In order to protect yourself and others, you must know when other drivers may do something hazardous. Some clues to this type of hazard are discussed below.

**Blocked Vision.** People who can't see others are a very dangerous hazard. Be alert for drivers whose vision is blocked. Vans, loaded station wagons, and cars with the rear window blocked are examples. Rental trucks should be watched carefully. Their drivers are often not used to the limited vision they have to the sides and rear of the truck. In winter, vehicles with frosted, ice-covered, or snow-covered windows are hazards.

Vehicles may be partly hidden by blind intersections or alleys. If you only can see the rear or front end of a vehicle but not the driver, then he or she can't see you. Be alert because he/she may back out or enter into your lane. Always be prepared to stop.

**Delivery Trucks Can Present a Hazard.** Packages or vehicle doors often block the driver's vision. Drivers of step vans, postal vehicles, and local delivery vehicles often are in a hurry and may suddenly step out of their vehicle or drive their vehicle into the traffic lane.

**Parked Vehicles Can Be Hazards,** especially when people start to get out of them. Or, they may suddenly start up and drive into your way. Watch for movement inside the vehicle or movement of the vehicle itself that shows people are inside. Watch for brake lights or backup lights, exhaust, and other clues that a driver is about to move.

Be careful of a stopped bus. Passengers may cross in front of or behind the bus, and they often can't see you.

**Pedestrians and Bicyclists Can Also Be Hazards.** Walkers, joggers, and bicyclists may be on the road with their back to the traffic, so they can't see you. Sometimes they wear portable stereos with headsets, so they can't hear you either. This can be dangerous. On rainy days, pedestrians may not see you because of hats or umbrellas. They may be hurrying to get out of the rain and may not pay attention to the traffic.

**Distractions.** People who are distracted are hazards. Watch for where they are looking. If they are looking elsewhere, they can't see you. But be alert even when they are looking at you. They may believe that they have the right of way.

**Children.** Children tend to act quickly without checking traffic. Children playing with one another may not look for traffic and are a serious hazard.

### **2.8.4 – Always Have a Plan**

You should always be looking for hazards. Continue to learn to see hazards on the road. However, don't forget why you are looking for the hazards--they may turn into emergencies. You look for the hazards in order to have time to plan a way out of any emergency. When you see a hazard, think about the emergencies that could develop and figure out what you would do. Always be prepared to take action based on your plans. In this way, you will be a prepared, defensive driver who will improve your own safety as well as the safety of all road users.

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### **Subsections 2.7 and 2.8 Test Your Knowledge**

1. How do you find out how many seconds of following distance space you have?
2. If you are driving a 30-foot vehicle at 55 mph, how many seconds of following distance should you allow?
3. You should decrease your following distance if somebody is following you too closely. True or False?
4. If you swing wide to the left before turning right, another driver may try to pass you on the right. True or False?
5. What is a hazard?
6. Why make emergency plans when you see a hazard?

These questions may be on the test. If you can't answer them all, re-read subsections 2.7 and 2.8

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## **2.9 – Distracted Driving**

A driver distraction is anything that takes your attention away from driving. Whenever you are driving a vehicle and your full attention is not on the driving task, you are putting yourself, your passengers, other vehicles, and pedestrians in danger. Distracted driving can cause collisions, resulting in injury, death or property damage.

Activities inside of the vehicle that can distract your attention include: talking to passengers; adjusting the radio, CD player or climate controls; eating, drinking or smoking; reading maps or other literature; picking up something that fell; talking on a cell phone or CB radio; reading or sending text messages; using any type of telematic or electronic devices (such as navigation systems, pagers, personal digital assistant, computers, etc.); daydreaming or being occupied with other mental distractions; and many others.

Possible distractions that could occur outside a moving vehicle: outside traffic, vehicles or pedestrians; outside events such as police pulling someone over or a crash scene; sunlight/sunset; objects in roadway; road construction; reading billboards or other road advertisements; and many others.

### **2.9.1 – The Distracted Driving Crash Problem**

The Large Truck Crash Causation Study (LTCCS) reported that 8 percent of large-truck crashes occurred when Commercial Motor Vehicle (CMV) drivers were externally distracted and 2 percent of large truck crashes occurred when the driver was internally distracted.

Approximately 5,500 people are killed each year on U.S. roadways and an estimated 448,000 are injured in motor vehicle crashes involving distracted driving (NHTSA Traffic Safety Facts: Distracted Driving).

Research indicates that the burden of talking on a cell phone - even if it's hands-free - saps the brain of 39% of the energy it would ordinarily devote to safe driving. Drivers who use a hand-held device are more likely to get into a crash serious enough to cause injury. (NHTSA distracted driving website, [www.distractiion.gov](http://www.distractiion.gov)).

### **2.9.2 – Effects of Distracted Driving**

Effects of distracted driving include slowed perception, which may cause you to be delayed in perceiving or completely fail to perceive an important traffic event; delayed decision making and improper action, which can cause you to be delayed in taking the proper action or make incorrect inputs to the steering, accelerator or brakes.

### **2.9.3 – Types of Distractions**

There are many causes of distraction, all with the potential to increase risk.

**Physical distraction** – one that causes you to take your hands off the wheel or eyes off the road, such as reaching for an object.

**Mental distraction** – activities that take your mind away from the road, such as engaging in conversation with a passenger or thinking about something that happened during the day.

**Both physical and mental distraction** – even greater chance a crash could happen, such as talking on a cell phone; or sending or reading text messages.



Placards must be readable from all four directions. They must be at least 9.8" (250mm) inches square, turned upright on a point, in a diamond shape. Cargo tanks and other bulk packaging display the identification number of their contents on placards or orange panels.

**Identification Numbers** are a four digit code used by first responders to identify hazardous materials. An identification number may be used to identify more than one chemical on shipping papers. The identification number will be preceded by the letters "NA" or "UN". The US DOT Emergency Response Guidebook (ERG) lists the chemicals and the identification numbers assigned to them.

Not all vehicles carrying hazardous materials need to have placards. The rules about placards are given in Section 9 of this manual. You can drive a vehicle that carries hazardous materials if it does not require placards. If it requires placards, you cannot drive it unless your driver license has the hazardous materials endorsement. See Figure 2.25.

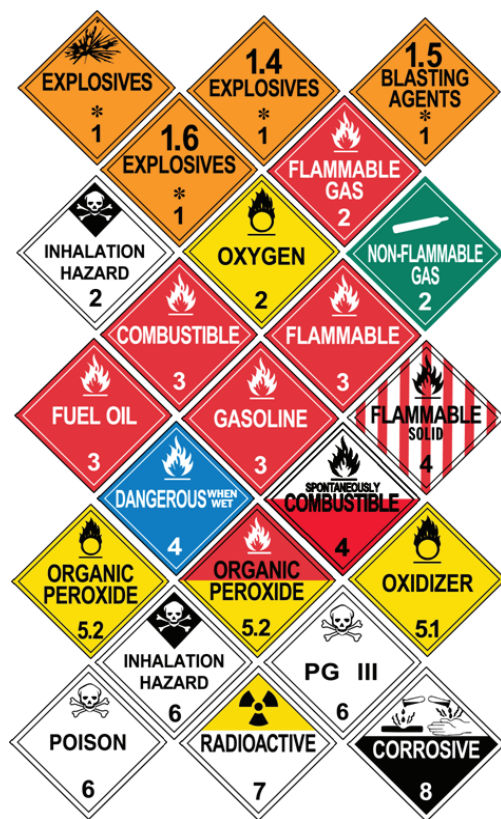


Figure 2.25

The rules require all drivers of placarded vehicles to learn how to safely load and transport hazardous products. They must have a commercial driver license with the hazardous materials endorsement. To get the required endorsement, you must pass a written test on material found in Section 9 of this manual. A tank endorsement is required for any commercial vehicle that is designed to transport any liquid or gaseous materials in a tank or tanks having an individual rated capacity of more than 119 gallons and an aggregate capacity of 1,000 gallons or more that is either permanently or temporarily attached to the vehicle or chassis. The liquid or gas does not have to be a hazardous material.

Drivers who need the hazardous materials endorsement must learn the placard rules. If you do not know if your vehicle needs placards, ask your employer. Never drive a vehicle needing placards unless you have the hazardous materials endorsement. To do so is a crime. When stopped, you will be cited and you will not be allowed to drive your truck. It will cost you time and money. A failure to placard when needed may risk your life and others if you have an accident. Emergency help will not know of your hazardous cargo.

Hazardous materials drivers must also know which products they can load together, and which they cannot. These rules are also in Section 9. Before loading a truck with more than one type of product, you must know if it is safe to load them together. If you do not know, ask your employer and consult the regulations.

### Subsections 2.22 and 2.23 Test Your Knowledge

1. Common medicines for colds can make you sleepy. True or False?
2. Coffee and a little fresh air will help a drinker sober up. True or False?
3. What is a hazardous materials placard?
4. Why are placards used?

These questions may be on the test. If you can't answer them all, re-read subsections 2.22 and 2.23.