



## **Commercial Vehicle Driving Course: I490205**

### **Syllabus**

The mission of the Commercial Vehicle Driving (CVD) program is to prepare postsecondary student for employment as a tractor trailer/truck driver. This program offers a sequence of courses that provides coherent and rigorous content aligned with challenging academic standards and relevant technical knowledge and skills needed to prepare commercial vehicle industry. The content includes but is not limited to the following: Loading and unloading cargo; reporting delays or accidents on the road; verifying load against shipping papers; and keeping records. The course content should also include instruction in human relations, leadership, communication, and employability skills, and safe, efficient work practices.

**Instructor:** Laban Price

Office Phone: (305) 557-1100, ext.2326

Cell Phone: (786) 285-3670

Email: Price@DadeSchools.net

Class Hours: Mon – Fri: 5:30 pm to 10:30 pm

Office Hours: 4:30 pm to 5:30 pm

Class Room Number 409

### **Attendance Policy:**

Late arrivals and/or early departure will be noted daily, as will absences. If a lack of attendance or a lack of punctuality becomes excessive, a referral to a counselor will be written. Students are not permitted to be absent from the class for a total of 30 hours.

**Program Length:** 320 hours

### **Course Requirements:**

- Must be at least 21 years of age.
- Attended a CDL Orientation
- Pass the Department of Transportation Physical
- Pass the Department of Transportation Drug Test
- Students must be able to read and speak English.
- Students must have the following requirements:
  - Air Brake test
  - General Knowledge test
  - Combinations Vehicle test

**TABE Requirements:**

**Reading-N/A**

**Math-N/A**

**Language-N/A**

**Refund Policy:**

Students are eligible for a full refund of Adult, Postsecondary Career Technical Education (CTE) tuition, test fees, and insurance fees if withdrawn within 5 days of the beginning of the class start date or the student registration date; whichever is later. Exceptions: Drug test receipt must be submitted to the instructor no later than the beginning of the second day of class. Failure to provide the drug test receipt by the deadline will result in being withdrawn from the class and forfeiture of fees paid. A positive drug test result will also result in being withdrawn from the class and forfeiture of fees paid.

**Materials Needed:**

- Uniform Shirt (Dickie’s style; button down w/ collar; Royal Blue) Work Gloves
- Flashlight
- Safety Vest
- Clipboard w/storage

**How to Study for this Course:**

Students will be expected to read and study all handouts and allocate a recommended two hours a day for study time.

**Detailed Course Calendar:**

- Pre-Trip and Straight Backing evaluations are on the second week of class
- Basic Skills evaluation for angle backing is on the third week of class
- Road Test evaluation is on the fourth week of class
- State Pre-Trip Testing begins on the third week of class
- State Skill Test begins on the fourth week of class
- State Road Test begins on the fourth week of class

**Evaluations Specified:**

List of assignments, with due dates and point values

**Grading:**

MDCPS grading scale.

A 90 - 100

B 80 - 89

C 70 - 79

D 60 – 69

F 68 or Below

S Satisfactory

U Unsatisfactory/Fail

Grading will be based on written test, preliminary test, skill evaluations, instructor observation, state testing, class participation, class assignments and the final exam.

**Written Tests:**

- Pre-Trip Inspections
- Compliance Safety Accountability
- Hours of Service

**Preliminary Evaluations in the following areas:**

**Pre-Trip Inspection:**

The pre-trip inspection test will be randomly selected by the instructor. It will consist of three major systems. You will be required to pass it with an 80% efficiency or better.

**Basic Control Skills (Backing):**

You will be required to straight back 3 times within the alley. You will be graded on the number of times you back through the alley without striking boundary lines.

**Road Test Evaluation:**

You will be evaluated on the driving range for your Road Test Evaluation. During that test, the instructor will have you make a series of turns. You will be graded on turns, up-shifting, down shifting, double clutching, proper use of turn signal, riding the clutch, hands on the steering wheel and coasting the vehicle.

**State Testing for CDL License:**

Each of the three tests will be given a maximum of two times.  
Failure of any one test twice will result in failure of the course.

**Florida Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles Test (FHSMV):**

Florida Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles Test (FHSMV) is a pass or fail type of test. In the class you will receive an “A” for each test that you pass on the FHSMV test, or you will receive an “F” for each FHSMV state test that you fail. Below is a list the different tests:

- Pre-Trip Inspection Test
- Backing Skills Test
- Road Driving Test

**Class Participation: Required:**

Ex. Truck Washes, Tire Changes, etc.

**Class Assignments:**

- Daily Pre-Trip Inspections
- Write a resume.
- Identify Job Opportunities for truck drivers by 3 companies.

## **Drug and Alcohol Policy:**

The Commercial Vehicle Driving Program at Miami Lakes Educational Center and Technical College is governed under the policies of the United States Department of Transportation, Florida Department of Education, Florida Department of Transportation, and Miami-Dade County Public Schools.

A “Pre-Employment” drug test is required for entry into the program. The drug test must meet the following requirements.

1. Must be conducted at Cano Health Care Centers of Miami; located at 7911 NW 72nd Ave. Medley, Fl
2. Drug test must be performed within 3 days before the start of the program.
3. You must tell the clinic the test is for the CDL program at Miami Lakes Educational Center.  
**The test must be a “Federal” “FMCSA” drug test.**
4. Drug test “receipt” must be submitted to the instructor on the first or second day of class.

The “receipt” is the form given by the clinic upon submission of the test sample; it is not the results. Failure to conduct the test as described above, the return of a “Failed” drug test, or failure to provide proof of completion of the drug test before the end of the second day of class; will result in the expulsions of the student from the program.

## **Additional Policies and Information:**

Each Student enrolled in the Commercial Vehicle Driving Program at Miami Dade County Public Schools is responsible for abiding by the rules and regulations of the program. Additional information about these policies is at the websites listed below or from the instructor.

- Post – Secondary Code of Student Conduct
- Commercial Vehicle Driving Syllabus
- Refund Policy
- Student Classroom and Safety Rules
- Drug Policy
- Mandatory Uniform Policy
- Maximum Allowable Absence Policy
- Notice of Driving Violations

Miami-Dade County Public Schools:  
<http://adulted.dadeschools.net>

Miami Lakes Educational Center and Technical College:  
<http://mllectc.dadeschools.net>

Commercial Vehicle Driving Program  
<https://miamilakes.edu/about/programs/career-and-technical-programs/commercial-vehicle-driving-class-a/>

**Florida Department of Education  
Student Performance Standards**

**Program Title: Commercial Vehicle Driving**  
**Career Certificate Program Number: I490205**

**Course Description:** The Tractor Trailer Truck Driver course prepares students for entry into the trucking and logistics industry. Students explore career opportunities and requirements of a professional tractor trailer driver. Students study vehicle safety, accident prevention, operating regulations, cargo handling, documentation procedures, pre-trip preparation, vehicle inspection, maintenance, service, control procedures, backing, coupling, uncoupling, maneuvering, road and hazardous driving skills, and licensing requirements.

<b>Course Number: TRA0080</b>	
<b>Occupational Completion Point: A</b>	
<b>Tractor Trailer Truck Driver – 320 Hours</b>	
01.0	Understand vehicle safety and accident prevention procedures. The student will be able to:
01.01	Understand, identify and explain the use of vehicle safety equipment.
01.02	Understand the use of fire extinguishers.
01.03	Utilize seat belts and personal protection gear appropriate to type of operation.
01.04	Describe safe lifting procedures through use of hands-on labs or through viewing safety videos.
01.05	Describe personal safety equipment and procedures.
01.06	Describe actions applicable for vehicle accidents.
01.07	Review reports in a classroom activity.
01.08	Understand accident reporting requirements (company, state, federal).
01.09	Identify all information needed for accident reports to the State, the employer, and the insurance company.
01.10	Review an accident report.
01.11	Describe procedures for protecting the scene of an accident.
01.12	Describe personal liability requirements.
01.13	Identify hazardous road conditions that are a potential threat to the safety of the truck driver.
01.14	Describe activities and characteristics of other road users that make them potentially dangerous.
01.15	Describe the potential consequences of excessive speed.
01.16	Describe the potential consequences of use of drugs or alcohol.

01.17	Demonstrate safety procedures for entering and exiting vehicles.
02.0	Understand and comply with vehicle operating regulations. The student will be able to:
02.01	Understand and comply with hours-of-service regulations.
02.02	Maintain a complete, neat, and accurate driver's duty status log including discussion of electronic logs.
02.03	Keep accurate records required by hours-of-service regulations.
02.04	Review mathematical calculations necessary to recap and apply totals to the hours-of-service regulations.
02.05	Determine driving hours remaining on a particular day or tour of duty.
02.06	Understand and comply with applicable United States Department of Transportation regulations including Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration rules and regulations - Compliance, Safety, and Accountability (CSA) particularly the role of drivers and motor carriers.
02.07	Understand and comply with Federal, State and Local traffic laws including restrictions on vehicle size and weight including permits when required.
03.0	Demonstrate proper cargo handling and documentation procedures. The student will be able to:
03.01	Understand legal gross weight and axle weight.
03.02	Describe cargo load to meet legal weight and safety requirements.
03.03	Discuss how to secure cargo using blocking, bracing, packing, rope, cable, chains and strapping.
03.04	Discuss the placement of placards when carrying hazardous materials.
03.05	Discuss procedure for use of common cargo handling equipment, including pallets, jacks, dollies, hand trucks, nets, slings, poles and other equipment.
03.06	Discuss categories of hazardous materials and the need for specialized training to handle hazardous materials.
03.07	Discuss hazardous materials documentation requirements.
03.08	Understand nature, amount, and condition of cargo on both pickup and delivery.
03.09	Understand information on bill of lading and properly record and report discrepancies and damage to the cargo.
03.10	Understand appropriate signatures on delivery receipts and other required forms.
03.11	Compare door seal number against shipping document.
04.0	Demonstrate trip planning preparation procedures. The student will be able to:
04.01	Plan a route from one point to another that is optimal in terms of travel time, fuel costs, potential hazards and federal, state and local travel restrictions.
04.02	Describe the use of manual and contemporary GPS navigation systems.
04.03	Estimate travel times and arrange for a secure place for layovers.

04.04	Demonstrate map reading skills.
04.05	Estimate fuel consumption and plan fuel stops.
04.06	Estimate expense money and obtain funds and/or credit cards.
05.0	Demonstrate vehicle inspection, maintenance, and servicing procedures. The student will be able to:
05.01	Describe function and operation of principle vehicle systems including, engine, engine auxiliary brake, drive train, coupling, suspension and electrical system, DEP engines, and regeneration processes where applicable.
05.02	Check vehicle registration and permit.
05.03	Check accident report packets for proper contents.
05.04	Check for previous days DVIR.
05.05	Check general appearance and condition of vehicle.
05.06	Check fuel, oil, water, automatic transmission, and diesel emissions fluid levels (DEF).
05.07	Check and clean all lights and reflectors.
05.08	Check tires, rims, and suspension.
05.09	Check horn, windshield wipers, and mirrors.
05.10	Check fifth wheel, trailer hook-up and brake lines.
05.11	Demonstrate proper procedure for expelling moisture from the air tanks after each trip.
05.12	Test parking brake and service brake before moving/driving vehicle.
05.13	Check emergency bi-directional reflective triangles, fire extinguishers, and spare fuses.
05.14	Check instruments for normal readings.
05.15	Check steering system, brake action and tractor protection valve.
05.16	Check cargo-blocking, bracing and tie down (if applicable).
05.17	Perform enroute inspections.
05.18	Perform post-trip inspection of vehicle and all systems.
05.19	Clean interior and exterior of vehicle.
05.20	Check mud/rain flaps.
05.21	Review adjusting procedures for tandem and fifth-wheel slides, if so equipped.
06.0	Demonstrate basic vehicle control procedures. The student will:
06.01	Demonstrate safe starting procedures.

06.02	Start, warm up and shut down the engine, according to the manufacturer's specifications.
06.03	Build full pressure (120-140 PSI) in air tanks or to governed cut-out.
06.04	Coordinate use of accelerator and clutch to achieve smooth acceleration and avoid clutch abuse (if applicable).
06.05	Maintain proper engine RPM while driving (if applicable).
06.06	Properly modulate air brakes to bring vehicle to a smooth stop.
06.07	Properly shift up and down through all gears using clutch (if applicable).
06.08	Double clutch non-synchronized transmissions and time shift for smooth and fuel-efficient performance (if applicable).
06.09	Select proper gear for speed and highway conditions (if applicable).
06.10	Operate manual, automatic, or semiautomatic transmissions as available training equipment allows.
06.11	Coordinate steering, braking and acceleration to take the vehicle through a desired path.
06.12	Adequately judge the path trailer will take (off tracking) as vehicle negotiates left or right curves and turns.
06.13	Use clutch and gears to maintain proper operating range/power/RPM of the motor while slowing the vehicle (if applicable).
06.14	Park the vehicle, set brakes and shut off the engine.
06.15	Discuss chocking procedures.
<b>07.0</b>	<b>Demonstrate backing skills and basic vehicle maneuvers. The student will:</b>
07.01	Check area before and during backing.
07.02	Properly utilize guides and mirrors.
07.03	Properly back in straight line and curved paths.
07.04	Properly back into both a 45° and 90° alley docks.
07.05	Navigate through a 100 feet alley both forward and backward.
07.06	Properly demonstrate an offset left/right backing maneuver.
07.07	Properly position unit for backing into a loading dock; back to a dock (actual or simulated).
07.08	Properly stop unit within 36 inches of the dock without contacting dock (actual or simulated).
07.09	Properly parallel park (sightside/blindside).
07.10	Judge side, rear and overhead clearances, and path of the trailer.
07.11	Make a straight-in approach to a lane.
<b>08.0</b>	<b>Demonstrate coupling and uncoupling skills. The student will be able to:</b>



08.01	Reverse-steer and articulate a vehicle.
08.02	Align the tractor properly to connect with trailer.
08.03	Back and secure the tractor properly into the trailer kingpin without damage.
08.04	Perform tug test against the locking mechanisms and visual checks to make sure coupling is secure.
08.05	Connect electrical and air lines properly.
08.06	Set in-cab air brake controls properly.
08.07	Retract and secure landing gear after coupling is secure.
08.08	Properly uncouple and secure the trailer.
09.0	Demonstrate road driving skills. The student will be able to:
09.01	Carefully enter traffic from a stopped or parked position.
09.02	Use clutch and gears properly (if applicable).
09.03	Proceed from a stopped position without rolling backward.
09.04	Use mirrors properly.
09.05	Signal intention to turn well in advance of turn.
09.06	Get into proper lane to turn well in advance of turn.
09.07	Select and shift to proper gear prior to beginning any turn (if applicable).
09.08	Check traffic conditions and turn only when intersection is clear.
09.09	Restrict traffic from passing on right when preparing to complete a righthand turn. Maintain 3 feet or less on right side of vehicle.
09.10	Execute a righthand turn maintaining 3 feet or less on right side of vehicle.
09.11	Complete a turn promptly and safely and not impede other traffic.
09.12	Obey all traffic signals.
09.13	Plan stop in advance and adjust speed correctly.
09.14	Discuss use of brakes properly on grades.
09.15	Plan stops far enough in advance to avoid hard braking.
09.16	Stop clear of crosswalks.
09.17	Come to a complete stop at all stop signs.
09.18	Yield right of way at intersections having yield signs.

09.19	Check for cross traffic regardless of traffic signals.
09.20	Approach all intersections prepared to stop if necessary.
09.21	Stop a minimum of 15 feet but not more than 50 feet before railroad grade crossing if stop is necessary.
09.22	Select proper gear to avoid shifting gears on railroad grade crossing (if applicable).
09.23	Determine sufficient space required for passing.
09.24	Pass only in safe locations.
09.25	Describe in detail how to pass safely on a two-lane highway.
09.26	Describe in detail how to pass safely on multiple lane highways.
09.27	Signal lane changes before and after passing.
09.28	Pass only when appropriate to avoid impeding other traffic.
09.29	Return to right lane promptly, but only when safe to do so.
09.30	Observe speed limits.
09.31	Adjust speed properly to road, weather, and traffic conditions.
09.32	Slowdown in advance of curves, danger zones and intersections.
09.33	Maintain consistent speed where possible.
09.34	Yield right of way.
09.35	Allow faster traffic to pass.
09.36	Understand or demonstrate the proper procedures for navigating a weigh station.
09.37	Comply with other inspection station procedures (e.g., agriculture).
09.38	Use horn only when necessary.
09.39	Park only in legally permissible parking areas.
09.40	Check instruments at regular intervals.
09.41	Determine minimum front-to-rear distances when following other vehicles using industry recognized standards.
10.0	Demonstrate hazardous driving skills. The student will be able to:
10.01	Understand preparation for operation in cold weather.
10.02	Understand proper procedure for checking ice accumulation on brakes, slack adjuster, air hoses, electrical wiring and radiator shutters during operation.
10.03	Perform operational adjustments necessary to maintain control in all weather conditions, including speed selection, braking and following distance.

10.04	Describe procedures to check safe operation of brakes after driving through deep water.
10.05	Perform proper use of windshield wipers, washers, and defrosters to maintain visibility.
10.06	Discuss how to recognize and evaluate changing road conditions that produce low traction, including initial rainfall, ice, snow, and mud.
10.07	Demonstrate or understand ability for recognizing conditions that produce low traction, including initial rainfall, ice, snow, and mud.
10.08	Describe and understand procedures to avoid skidding and jackknifing.
10.09	Understand procedures to avoid hydroplaning and describe the road and vehicle conditions that produce it.
10.10	Understand procedures for mounting and dismounting tire chains.
10.11	Understand procedures for extricating the vehicle from snow, sand and mud by maneuvering or towing.
10.12	Demonstrate ability to adjust rate of change in speed and direction to accommodate road conditions to avoid skidding.
10.13	Describe procedures required to coordinate acceleration and shifting to overcome the resistance of snow, sand, and mud.
10.14	Demonstrate ability to perform brake checks on equipment prior to mountain driving.
10.15	Discuss procedures required to use right lane or special truck lane going up grades.
10.16	Discuss procedures required to place transmission in appropriate gear for engine braking before starting downgrade.
10.17	Discuss procedures required to use proper braking techniques and maintain proper engine braking before starting downgrades.
10.18	Discuss proper use of truck escape ramp when brakes fail on a downgrade.
10.19	Discuss procedure required for observing temperature gauge frequently when pulling heavy loads up long grades.
10.20	Discuss the effect of vehicle weight and speed upon braking and shifting ability on long downgrades.
10.21	Identify the meaning and use of percent of grade signs.
10.22	Discuss bringing the truck to a stop in the shortest possible distance while maintaining directional control on a dry surface.
10.23	Discuss procedures to make an evasive turn off the roadway and return to the roadway while maintaining directional control.
10.24	Discuss procedures to bring the vehicle to a stop in the event of a brake failure.
10.25	Discuss procedures to maintain control of the vehicle in the event of a blowout.
10.26	Discuss procedures to bring truck to a stop in the shortest possible distance while maintaining directional control when operating on a slippery surface.
10.27	Discuss procedures to recover from vehicle skids induced by snow, ice, water, oil, sand, wet leaves, or other slippery surfaces.
10.28	Discuss procedures to counter steer out of a skid in a way that will regain directional control and not produce another skid.
10.29	Discuss procedure to operate brakes properly to provide maximum braking without loss of control.
11.0	Apply concepts learned for obtaining a Commercial Driver's License (CDL). The student will be able to:

11.01	Demonstrate competence in performing basic Commercial Vehicle Driving skills utilizing the CDL testing criteria.
11.02	Demonstrate understanding and knowledge of Commercial Vehicle Driving Laws as required, to safely, and legally operate a commercial vehicle.

**Miami Lakes Educational Center and Technical College**  
5780 NW 158<sup>th</sup> Street  
Miami Lakes, Florida  
305-557-1100

**Acknowledgement of Course Syllabus**

I received the course syllabus for the Commercial Vehicle Driving Program. (CDL class - A)

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Print Name

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Signature

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Date