

## EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS:

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Many schools offer a program for those interested in becoming a truck driver. There are many good resources for looking up information such as schools located in your area, some include:

- American Truck Driving School Directory  
<http://www.infoporium.com/truckschools/>
- American Trucking Association, Inc.  
<http://www.truckline.com>
- Professional Truck Driver Institute  
<http://www.ptdi.org>

## Sources:

<http://www.bls.gov/oco/print/ocos246.htm>

<http://dothr.ost.doq.gov/careers/truckdri.htm>

IS THIS A POSSIBLE CAREER FOR YOU?

## Truck Driver

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## NATURE OF WORK:

The majority of truck drivers live their lives constantly on the highway, delivering goods of all kind to places located all over the United States. However, trucking agencies are becoming more family friendly. The driver may be based to a certain region close to where they reside, so they would not have to be away from home as often. They transport goods such as: livestock, perishable and non-perishable food items, automobiles, plus numerous other types of commodities. Sometimes drivers also haul specialized items such as antiques. There are two types of truck drivers; heavy truck and tractor-trailer drivers, and light or delivery services truck drivers.

## TRAINING & OTHER QUALIFICATIONS:

- Valid Driver's License issued by State in which they live
- Commercial Driver's License (CDL)
  - Must pass a written test on rules and regulations
  - Must be able to demonstrate one can operate a commercial truck safely

- Most states require drivers to be at least 18 years old to drive within state borders
- Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations require drivers to be at least 21 years old
- Must pass all physical requirements

## EDUCATION:

- Taking driver-training courses is a good way of preparing for a truck driving career
- High School courses in driver-training and automotive mechanics is also helpful
- Both private and public vocational-technical schools around the US offer tractor-trailer driver training programs

## JOB OUTLOOK:

Opportunities for the truck driving industry are plentiful for individuals interested in this career. The trucking industry has one of the highest job openings available all over the United States each year. In 2000, the number of people employed as truck drivers totaled around 3.3 million. .

## EARNINGS:

Truck driver's salaries vary according to the type of truck and distance driven.

## GEOGRAPHICAL AREAS OF EMPLOYMENT:

Truck drivers have the opportunity to travel within the state they live in, as well as interstate. It just depends on the needs of the company they are driving for, and qualifications the driver possesses.

