



Entry Level Driver Training & Administrative Compliance Services
Frequently Asked Questions
September 14, 2021

What is ELDT?

Entry Level Driver Training (ELDT) is a federally regulated training requirement (classroom and behind the wheel) for any individual seeking a Commercial Drivers License (CDL) or endorsement as of February 7, 2022.

Why is ELDT important now?

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) Entry Level Driver Training (ELDT) requirements are starting; the new ELDT mandate begins February 7, 2022 for a new Commercial Drivers' License (CDL) or a new endorsement. The new regulation requires behind the wheel and classroom training before an individual can apply for a CDL. A person seeking a commercial drivers license and/or endorsement as of February 7, 2022 must receive and successfully complete ELDT by a Registered Training Provider (RTP) before the person can apply for a commercial drivers license or endorsement.

What is the NPGA Administrative Compliance Service? & Why is it Useful?

The NPGA Administrative Compliance Service (ACE) is assistance to complete the regulatory requirements, filing paperwork, and submitting information to the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA)'s new Entry Level Driver Training (ELDT) requirements, which are effective February 7, 2022. Through ACE, the 30+ steps mandated by ELDT can become 5 simple steps with NPGA guiding you from start to finish. The new ELDT regulation requires behind the wheel and classroom training before an individual can apply for a CDL. Specific documentation requirements, equipment and training minimums, instructor requirements, and more must meet FMCSA's regulations. NPGA can navigate the regulatory pathways and manage compliant records while you focus on getting your driver up to speed. Enable drivers to learn at their own pace and see their skills develop; let NPGA maneuver through the regulatory burdens.

Who is the service for?

The services provided by NPGA (educational and administrative) are open to any member of the on-road community that hires individuals seeking a Commercial Driver's License (CDL) or HME (hazardous material endorsement).

How does the program offer One Stop Shopping?

NPGA offers both the educational training and administrative management (ACE) of the required Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) Entry Level Driver Program (ELDT).

How do I sign up?

Before February 7, 2022, sign up for the waiting list [here](#) after 10/1/2021. When signup is available on February 7, 2022, reminder notices will be sent.

After February 7, 2022 sign ups are available [here](#).



Is HAZMAT endorsement (HME) a part of the program?

Yes. It is an optional portion of the program if an applicant is seeking a HME.

What if I have a CDL but need a HAZMAT endorsement?

Individuals with a CDL may take only the HAZMAT endorsement portion of the program to meet the training requirements before the CDL-holder can take the HME exam with the state.

When I renew my CDL or HAZMAT do I need to complete ELDT?

No. As long your license and endorsement have not expired you are not required to complete ELDT.

Will I face an audit from the Federal Motor Carrier Administration (FMCA)?

If you utilize the Deluxe ACE package, no. The NPGA administrative service will assist you through the ELDT and/or HME training, manage the required paperwork, and audits. NPGA can navigate the regulatory pathways and manage compliant records while you focus on getting your driver up to speed.

Is Behind the Wheel or Theory (Classroom) Training Offered?

Yes. The new regulation requires behind the wheel and classroom training before an individual can take the Commercial Drivers' License (CDL) exam with the state. ACE enables drivers to learn at their own pace and see their skills develop while NPGA manages compliant records.

Is NPGA a registered Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) training provider?

Yes.

Can the training be completed over a series of days?

Yes. The training can be completed over a period of 12 months from the completion of one segment and the next – segments being behind the wheel and classroom training portions of ELDT requirements.

How is the theory (classroom) portion of the training completed?

The classroom portion is completed through online instruction. This will include basic operations, pre- and post-trip inspections, space management, hazard perception, maintenance, fatigue, etc. Driver-applicants must achieve a passing score of 80 percent on a review test after completing the classroom training.

How is the behind the wheel portion of the training complete?

The behind the wheel training requirements include building experience on a range and public road operation, parking, hours of service, emergencies, etc. This training can be led by an individual on your staff with a Commercial Drivers' License (CDL). Through ACE, your staff steer driver-applicants through the behind-the-wheel requirements while meeting all vehicle, trainer, and roadway requirements.

Why is NPGA doing this?

NPGA wants our members to focus on what they do best – selling propane or propane related supplies. NPGA offers the training and records management as a membership benefit at a decreased cost. (The program is available to non-members too.)

Is it just for the propane industry?

No, this program will be available to all industries and all members of the on-road community.



How much does the program cost?

Fees are structured according to NPGA-member status and ACE service options. The amount of the fees will be based on whether a company is a member of NPGA and the level of administrative service elected. See Fee Structure Table attachment.

How will NPGA’s services save me money?

NPGA’s services can help get your driver-applicant successfully on the road. The classroom and behind the wheel training can be completed on a schedule established by you. NPGA can navigate the regulatory pathways and manage compliant records while you focus on getting your driver up to speed. Enable drivers to learn at their own pace and see their skills develop; let NPGA maneuver through the regulatory burdens.

How do I know which package is right for me?

There is a decision tree with yes/no questions [here](#) (after 10/31/21) that will guide the level of service you require.

When does the administrative service start?

February 2022.

What happens when I sign up?

Each driver-applicant receives an online account to access the ELDT materials, according to the ACE package selected. The driver-applicant can begin training as soon as the account is activated!

How do I pay for the program?

Payments are made through npga.org/ELDT (as of 2/7/2022) at the time of purchase.

Are fees refundable if the driver-applicant doesn’t complete the program?

As soon as a driver-applicant starts the training, our work begins. Unfortunately, if the driver-applicant doesn’t complete the program, we’ve already provided services and guidance. If a driver-applicant has started the program, fees are nonrefundable. However, if a program is purchased but the driver-applicant does not begin training, fees can be credited to the company.