



# Commercial Pre-Trip, Skills, and Road Test Requirements

P.O. Box 201430 Helena, MT 59620-1430 • Phone (406) 444-3933 • Fax (406) 444-1987 • [dojmt.gov/driving/](http://dojmt.gov/driving/)

You must hold your Commercial License Permit (CLP) for a minimum of 14 days before testing.

The test must be completed in the following order:

**Step 1 - Pre-trip vehicle inspection**

**Step 2 - Basic vehicle control skills**

**Step 3 - On-road driving**

You must successfully complete each step before moving on to the next. The test will be ended if a step is failed. You will be required to reschedule.

1. Study section 11, 12, and 13 of the Commercial Driver License (CDL) Manual
  - a. Those testing for a school bus endorsement must also study section 10

**NOTE:** The pre-trip vehicle inspection includes the complete in-cab air brake test. The in-cab air brake test must be done correctly; if failed, it will result in failure of the pre-trip vehicle inspection and testing will be ended.
2. Schedule an appointment
  - a. Online at: <https://dojmt.gov/driving/appointment-scheduling/>
  - b. By phone at 866-450-8034
3. You must test in a vehicle representative of the license and type you are applying for
  - a. Class A drivers testing in vehicles with non-fifth wheel connections (such as pintle hook) will receive a “no tractor trailer” restriction
  - b. Those using automatic transmission vehicles will receive an “automatic transmission only” restriction
  - c. To be valid for air brakes, you must test in an air brake equipped vehicle
4. When arriving for your test, you must present the following:
  - a. Valid vehicle registration
  - b. Valid vehicle registration for trailer (Class A only)
  - c. Valid vehicle insurance card
  - d. Your valid commercial license permit
  - e. Your valid class D license
5. If you cannot keep your appointment, you must cancel prior to the appointment. Failure to do so will result in a \$20 cancellation fee.

Your permit is valid for 180 days. If your permit is about to expire, you may renew it one time *before it expires*. There is no cost to renew your commercial license permit. Pre-trip and/or skill tests passed during the first 180 days are forfeited if the permit is renewed.

Please arrive 15 minutes early and have your documents ready for verification.

Applicants arriving late or without all the required documentation may be required to reschedule.