

MEMORANDUM

To: All LiUNA Laborers

From: LiUNA Chicagoland Laborers' Training & Apprentices Fund

Date: March 9, 2023

Re: CLTAF Training Course Update - CDL

Hello Chicagoland Laborers,

We've received several inquiries since the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) modified the CDL program's training requirements nationwide in February 2022.

Beginning February 7, 2022, entry-level CDL drivers or Class B drivers seeking to upgrade to a Class A CDL are only allowed to take the CDL test at the DMV after the Entry Level Driver Training (ELDT) program has been successfully completed. After a driver successfully completes the required training, the training provider electronically submits the trainee's certification information to the Training Provider Registry. Prior to allowing the driver to test, each state verifies that the drivers have completed the ELDT by checking the Registry database.

The typical registered providers of this training are truck driving schools, which we are not. Therefore, we are no longer allowed to assist our members as we have in the past. In the past during our CDL course, we would discuss the pre-trip, allow practice time with the truck; schedule the DMV test appointment and allow use of the truck during testing. The ELDT program includes several weeks of classroom theory, behind the wheel range and behind the wheel on public road driver training.

Since this requirement was introduced, we've discovered a loophole that has allowed us to assist some members who were pursuing their CDL. If you possessed a CDL prior to Feb 7, 2022 (even if your CDL had expired) we may be able to offer assistance. If a member has an expired CDL and want to re-obtain a CDL of the same class, even if it had been expired for several years, you may be allowed to bypass the ELDT program and the Training Fund may be able to assist you by scheduling your appointment at the DMV and providing time for you to practice in the Training Fund vehicle.

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If you held a CDL prior to 2-7-2022, please check with the DMV to verify that you are “grandfathered in” and will be allowed to bypass the ELDT program. If you verify with the DMV that you can bypass the ELDT, reach out to us at training@chicagolaborers.org and we will attempt to schedule you an appointment at the DMV and time for you to practice.