



Explore a Career as a

# TRUCK DRIVER

## Target Occupation Profile

### What do Truck Drivers do?

Truck drivers are hired to drive light trucks for deliveries as well as heavy and tractor-trailer trucks for longer hauls. They will pick up, transport and drop off packages and shipments, and sometimes provide sales along their route. They drive over established routes or within an established territory delivering many different types of goods or picking up or delivering items. They may also take orders, collect payment or stock merchandise at point of delivery. Most of the time, they transport merchandise from a distribution center to businesses. Truck drivers have a physically demanding job, often driving for long periods, loading and unloading cargo, and doing a lot of lifting, carrying, and walking.

### Training & Educational Opportunities

You will have plenty of employment opportunities as a truck driver once you've earned a high school diploma, GED, or certificate. You must have a valid driver's license and possess a clean driving record. Companies will also provide on the job training for new truck drivers. You must have a Class A, B, or C commercial driver's license (CDL) in order to operate a vehicle over 16,000 pounds.

### As a Truck Driver you will:

- Drive short or long distances along an established route
- Follow all applicable traffic laws
- Load and unload cargo
- Handle paperwork, such as receipts or delivery confirmation notices
- Maintain vehicles and associated equipment to be clean and in good working order
- Recommend new products or services to clients and solicit new customers
- Report on-the-road incidents and serious mechanical problems to a dispatcher

### Truck Drivers are in demand in Cook County!

Cook County employment of truck drivers is expected to increase through the year 2020. Truck drivers are a key aspect to our community and businesses

# Truck Driver

## Training Providers

There are many training providers available in Cook County to supply you with the training you need for a career as a truck driver.

To access a list of training providers for this occupation and many more, please visit [Illinoisworknet.com](http://Illinoisworknet.com) and select the 'Training and Credentials' menu option to view 'WIOA Approved Training Programs.'



## Types of Employers

There are many different types of employers of truck drivers including:

- Courier and messenger services
- Food and beverage wholesalers
- Freight carrier companies
- Manufacturing companies
- Retail sales and home delivery services
- Shipping companies

## Wages & Openings

### Truck Driver Employment Data for Cook County

|   |         |
|---|---------|
| Average Starting Hourly Wage              | \$11.08 |
| Average Hourly Wage With Experience       | \$19.07 |
| Average Annual Job Openings Cook County   | 1,196   |
| Average Annual Job Openings Chicago Metro | 2,090   |

\*Source: Emsi, 2017.2

## Opportunities

After you complete your training as a truck driver you will have many opportunities for specialization and advancement. Some opportunities include:

- Fleet Manager
- Freight Truck Driver
- Heavy and Tractor Trailer Driver
- Operations Manager
- Sales Manager
- Truck Owner Operator
- Warehouse Manager



Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership

[workforceboard.org](http://workforceboard.org)

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