

# Professional Truck Driver Training

2010 Edition

## Program Information Guide



**Isothermal Community College  
SAGE Technical Services**

**PO Box 804**

**Spindale, North Carolina 28160**

**828-286-3636, ext. 221**

[www.isothermal.edu/truck](http://www.isothermal.edu/truck)

**ISOTHERMAL**  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE



Welcome to Isothermal Community College. The Sage Corporation and ICC are proud to present the professional truck-driving program. We are committed to giving you the best training available anywhere.

Federal guidelines, an unstable economy, and rising fuel cost, have forced trucking companies to find more cost effective and efficient ways to deliver freight. Today's drivers must be better educated to ensure success, for themselves and the companies they represent. Driver's skill level and reputation are held to a much higher standard than they were just a few years ago.

This Program Guide is designed to allow you to access as much information about the program as possible. We encourage you to seriously consider your new career decision. We believe the program is presented with vision and focus, designed to accommodate each student's individual needs and requirements. We are constantly improving our methods of training, to ensure students are exposed to the most up to date, and effective, behind the wheel and classroom instruction.

Van Bridges, Director  
Sage Technical Services

Choosing a truck driving school is a tough decision. You are making a major career change. It requires an investment of time and money. Is this the right career and the right school?

Our school offers you

- One-on-one instruction in the truck
- National certification by the Professional Truck Driving Institute



All of these elements combine for a school that responds to your needs so you can be successful.

Come visit us in Spindale, North Carolina. Visit our website, [www.isothermal.edu/truck/](http://www.isothermal.edu/truck/). Give us a call 828-286-3636, ext. 221. We're ready to give you information so you can make the best choice for your new career.

Thad Harrill  
VP of Community/Workforce Ed & Institutional Adv  
Isothermal Community College

### **Our Results**

- You can start earning \$34,000 per year. (US Dept. of Labor)
- 100% of last years students graduated
- 90% of our graduates were placed in entry level truck driving positions.

## Program Content

You will learn the latest driving information from professional drivers. They will teach you the best ways to operate, maintain, and manage the truck. In addition, you'll learn how to manage your money and time, and how to interview for jobs and provide good customer service. By graduation you'll see yourself on the road to a new career as a professional truck driver.

## What Makes Us Unique: One on One Instruction

You will drive with just the instructor in the truck. There is no one around to distract you. You can concentrate on one of the most important parts of our program: driving. With the instructor you will practice first on the range. Then you will progress to two-lane roads, major highways, expressways, city streets, mountains, and more.



## Program Goals

1. To provide you with all the basic knowledge and practical skills necessary to become an entry level, over-the-road driver.
2. To enable our graduates to receive a Class A, Commercial Driver's License with multiple endorsements: tank truck, hazardous materials endorsements, etc.
3. To assist you in finding employment.
4. To provide ample driving time so that you will need a minimum of further training by the hiring company to drive solo.

## Day or Evening Programs

Choose either day or evening classes. A maximum of 18 students per instructor.

If you take day classes you can complete the program in just 5 weeks. The first 3 weeks you will be in the classroom, Monday through Friday, from 7:30 am to 4:30 pm. Work in the truck starts the fourth day, for one student per evening from 5 pm to 9:15 pm. After the first 3 weeks of classroom studies, behind-the-wheel time becomes more intensive, with you training during various times of the day.

When you choose the evening sessions, you'll be in classes Monday through Thursday nights from 5 pm to 9:15 pm. Here the driving schedule is tailored to meet the needs of those currently working shifts in industry, with behind-the-wheel time beginning during the 4th week. Behind the wheel time is in addition to classroom time.

All classes are held on the campus of Isothermal Community College. The practice range is also on campus.

## Training Hours

Classroom	124 hours
Practice Range Driving	21 hours
Over-the-Road Driving	23 hours
Total	168 hours

## Training Vehicles

Learn how to drive in our Freightliner Conventionals and Volvo with three different Eaton transmissions and equipped with sleepers. You will pull 48' dry vans unloaded and loaded.

## Admission Requirements

- 21 years old to drive interstate
- High School Graduate or GED (non-graduates can take a placement test)
- Valid driver's license
- Currently free of serious Motor Vehicle offenses
- Pass a DOT physical screening and drug screening

## Costs

Tuition: \$3,575

- books
- materials
- use of the truck
- instruction
- graduation

Physical/drug testing \$135

CDL, depending on endorsements and years of issue \$80 to \$150

Behind the wheel training which extends beyond 51 hours is available at \$20 per hour.

## Housing

Traveling from out of town? Please let us know if you need help with housing. It's available at a reasonable cost. You can select a place to stay from cabins, motels, furnished villas, or apartments. The costs range from \$100 - \$300 per week.

## Financial Assistance

You may be eligible for different kinds of financial assistance. We have an agreement with private companies to provide low-cost loans, and there are government options available. Some companies reimburse you under their contract.

## Commercial Driver's License Testing

You will be qualified with the basics to drive a tractor trailer when you graduate. For your convenience, we have in-house examiners for the NC Department of Motor Vehicles. Take your license test in our truck.

## Placement

Many of our students are pre-hired by the time they graduate. During the time you're in our program you'll have the opportunity to meet with representatives from various motor carriers and submit applications. Some companies only hire our graduates. We offer graduates life-long help with placement.

## National Certificate

Receive a national certificate when you complete our program. Because our program is certified, we can issue the PTDI national certificate letting your future employer know you have met the industry standard for an entry level driver.



## Classroom Outline

1. CDL: General knowledge, air brakes, combination vehicles - doubles and triples, tank trucks, hazardous materials
2. Basic Operation: Orientation, Hours of service, control systems, vehicle inspection, vehicle systems, sliding fifth wheels and tandem axles, coupling/uncoupling, basic control, shifting, backing
3. Safe Operating Practices for Basic Operations: speed management, visual search, vehicle communication, space management
4. Advanced Operating Procedures: Emergency maneuvers, skid control and recovery, night driving, hazard perception, extreme driving conditions
5. Vehicle Systems and Reporting Malfunctions: Preventive maintenance and servicing, recognizing and reporting malfunctions
6. Non-Vehicle Activities: public and employer relations, personal and family management, scale house operations, cargo documentation, handling cargo, motivation, terminology, getting the job you want, The professional driver, lifestyle adjustment

## Range/Road Driving Outline

1. CDL: pre-trip inspection, skills, road, state CDL examination
2. Basic Operation: basic controls, visual search, communication, space management, shifting, backing, coupling & uncoupling, inspection
3. Advanced Operating Procedures: night operation, extreme driving conditions, hazard perception

### Program Staff

828-286-3636

Fax: 828-286-8434

We welcome your visit e-mail, or phone call. We are available at any time by appointment.

### SAGE Technical Services

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### Isothermal Community College

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## Upcoming Classes 2010

### Day Courses

All classes start on Mondays

Day classes run 5 weeks

First Day	Graduation
December 7	January 8
January 4	February 5
January 25	February 26
February 15	March 19
March 8	April 9
March 29	April 30
April 19	May 28
May 10	June 11
June 7	July 9
June 28	July 30
July 19	August 20
August 9	September 10
August 30	October 1
September 20	October 22
October 11	November 12
November 1	December 3

### Evening Courses

All classes start on Mondays

Evening classes run 8 weeks

First Day	Graduation
January 11	March 5
March 15	May 7
May 17	July 9
July 26	September 17
September 27	November 19
November 29	January 21, 2011

### Holidays

No classes or driving are scheduled on Easter, Thanksgiving, Christmas or New Years.

