

# Transport Truck Drivers

## Description

Transport truck drivers operate heavy trucks to transport goods and materials over urban, interurban, provincial and international routes. They are employed by transportation, manufacturing, distribution and moving companies, and trucking employment service agencies, or they may be self-employed. This unit group also includes drivers of special purpose trucks and shunters who move trailers to and from loading docks within trucking yards or lots.

### Duties:

#### Long-haul transport truck drivers:

- Operate and drive primarily tractor-trailor, long-combination vehicle and straight-body trucks weighing over 4500 kg to transport goods and materials over long distances
- Plan trip logistics and obtain required documentation to transport goods
- Perform pre-trip, en route and post-trip inspection of vehicle systems, equipment and accessories such as tires, lights and turning signals, brakes and cold storage
- Ensure cargo is secured properly in accordance with safety requirements and follow safety procedures for transporting dangerous goods
- Obtain special permits and other documents required to transport cargo on international routes
- Record cargo information, hours of service, distance travelled and fuel consumption
- Administer bills of lading and manually or electronically maintain log books
- Communicate with dispatcher, other drivers and customers using communication devices and on-board computers
- May perform emergency roadside repairs and transport hazardous products or dangerous goods.
- May drive as part of a two-person team or convoy

#### Short-haul and local transport truck drivers:

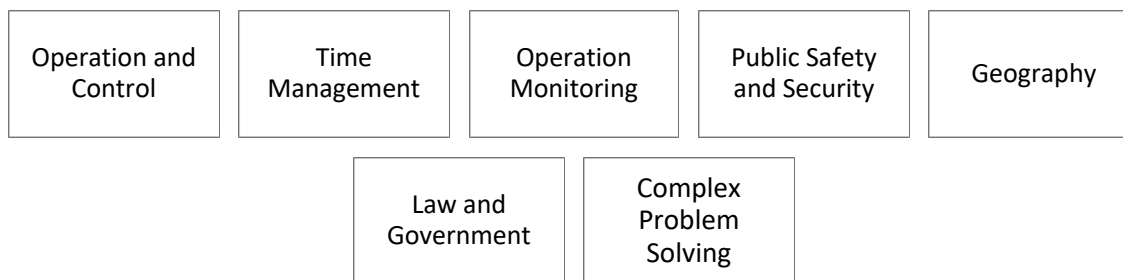
- Operate and drive primarily straight trucks to transport goods and materials mainly on local routes and short interurban routes
- Perform pre-trip, en route and post-trip inspection and oversee all aspects of vehicle such as condition of equipment, and loading and unloading of cargo
- May drive special purpose trucks such as tow trucks, dump trucks, hydrovac trucks or cement mixing trucks.

### Other titles:

- Transport Driver
- Moving Van Driver
- Dump Truck Driver
- Logging Truck Driver
- Tow Truck Driver
- Long Haul Truck Driver
- Heavy Truck Driver

(Government of Canada National Occupation Classification)

## Skills



## Education/Training Requirements

### Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD)

- Completion of secondary school is usually required

### Post-secondary diploma/degree

- Completion of an accredited driving training course of up to three months duration, through vocational school or community college, may be required

### Certification

- On-the-job training is provided
- A Class 3 or D licence is required to drive straight-body trucks
- A Class 1 or A licence is required to drive long combination vehicles
- Air brake endorsement (Z) is required for drivers who operate vehicles equipped with air brakes
- Transportation of dangerous goods (TDG) certification is required for drivers who transport hazardous products or dangerous goods
- Additional licensing endorsement or certification may be required to drive articulated trucks

## Potential Earnings in Durham Region

The average and median wages and salaries for individuals employed as transport truck drivers are as follows. Place of Residence (POR) is defined as individuals who reside within the Durham Region. Place of Work (POW) is defined as individuals who are employed within the Durham Region.

Median Wages and Salaries (POR): **\$42,367**      Average Wages and Salaries (POR): **\$42,698**  
 Median Wages and Salaries (POW): **\$40,945**      Average Wages and Salaries (POW): **\$41,361**

## Employment Prospects

Industry (NAICS)	Jobs in Durham Region (POW)	Durham Region Residents Employed (POR)
4131 Food wholesale-distributors	20	50
4163 Lumber and other building supplies wholesaler-distributors	40	25
4841 General freight trucking	585	665
4842 Specialized freight trucking	320	365

4884 Support activities for road transportation	40	30
4885 Freight transportation arrangement	30	40
4911 Postal services	25	30
4931 Warehousing and storage	50	80

(Ministry of Advanced Education and Skills Development 2016 data in Durham Workforce Authority's 2017 Sector Report)

### Additional Resources

- Transportation of Dangerous Goods Certification:  
<http://wwwapps.tc.gc.ca/saf-sec-sur/3/train-form/search-eng.aspx>