

**Subject** Commercial motor vehicle operator training and testing

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## Overview

This bill contains various provisions related to commercial motor vehicle drivers, including to authorize third-party road tests for a commercial driver's license, create an assistance program for commercial vehicle driver training, and make a \$6,000,000 appropriation for the assistance program.

## Summary

Section	Description
1	<b>Road test.</b> Defines "road test" in the chapter of state statutes that governs driver licensing.
2	<b>Test scheduling.</b> Amends a prohibition on Department of Public Safety scheduling of recurring appointment time blocks with driver education programs, to allow recurring blocks for commercial driver's license road tests. Makes a technical change.
3	<b>Third-party testing of certain drivers.</b> Authorizes a third-party tester to administer the road test for a commercial driver's license or endorsement to students enrolled at a commercial driver education program. Makes technical and conforming changes.
4	<b>[Adds § 171.45] Commercial driver training assistance program.</b> Establishes a program for grants to individuals and motor carriers to support commercial motor vehicle driver training.  <b>Subd. 1. Definitions.</b> Defines terms.  <b>Subd. 2. Program establishment.</b> Directs the Department of Public Safety (DPS) to create the assistance program.  <b>Subd. 3. Program administration.</b> Requires DPS to establish program requirements, including to: (1) direct the department to distribute aid on a first-

Section	Description
	come, first-served basis; and (2) provide specified information and elements for a program website. Limits the amount spent on administrative costs.
	<b>Subd. 4. Eligibility for assistance.</b> Sets requirements for an individual to apply for aid under the program. Specifies conditions, including on age, citizenship, prior job shadows, and license eligibility.
	<b>Subd. 5. Driver training schools.</b> Sets conditions for a driver training school to register as a training provider under the program.
	<b>Subd. 6. Employers.</b> Sets conditions for an employer to register as a registered employer under the program.
	<b>Subd. 7. Applications; denials; removals.</b> Provides for program registration, registration denial, removal, and reviews.
	<b>Subd. 8. Financial assistance; awards to individuals.</b> Sets requirements on aid awards to individuals, including to set out calculation of the aid amount.
	<b>Subd. 9. Financial assistance; reimbursement to motor carriers.</b> Authorizes financial assistance to motor carriers that meet specified requirements, including being a private driver training school. Sets out calculation of the aid and limits the maximum in an amount to be specified.
	<b>Subd. 10. Financial assistance; terms and repayment.</b> Sets terms and conditions that must be included with an award of aid, including to specify a timeline by which the aid recipient completes driver training, obtains a commercial driver's license, and has been employed with a registered employer. Directs DPS to establish a pro-rated aid repayment schedule when the terms are not met.
	<b>Subd. 11. Reporting.</b> Requires regular reporting by aid recipients, registered training providers that receive funds under the program, and registered employers who employ an individual aid recipient.

5 **Appropriation; commercial driver training assistance program.**  
Appropriates \$6,000,000 from the general fund in FY 2026 for the commercial driver training assistance program.



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