

What is CDL Third Party Testing?

State law allows authorized persons other than employees of the department to administer skills tests to applicants for a commercial drivers license (CDL).

What is a CDL Third Party Tester?

A private employer, agency, or person authorized by the department to administer the third party testing program.

Who is a Third Party Examiner?

A person who is employed by a third party tester, who is trained and certified by the department to conduct CDL skills tests.

What is required of Third Party Testers?

A company, agency, or person who wishes to be a tester must meet all department requirements for place of business, employ at least one third party examiner, employ one official who is responsible for the organization's third party testing program, conduct at least 12 CDL skills tests annually, and agree to have their program audited/inspected by the department or Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA), with or without prior notice.

Are there special requirements for being a Third Party Examiner?

Third party examiners must hold a valid certificate issued by the department. They must have a CDL of the class, and endorsed for vehicles representative of the type they intend to test. Examiners must have an exemplary driving record. Examiners must have at least two years of licensed experience driving the class of vehicle they intend to test. Third party examiners must receive the same CDL skills test training as employees of the department and conduct the same skills tests. Third party examiners must conduct at least 12 CDL skills tests annually.

What does it cost to be a Third Party Tester?

A third party tester must pay \$850.00 for training costs and annual application fees of \$100 plus \$25 for each examiner they employ. Third party tester authorization expires each year on December 31st.

Do Third Party Testers charge for the tests they conduct?

Third party testers may charge a fee for the skills tests they conduct, but may not exceed the fee set by the department. Any charge for providing the applicant with a vehicle to use for the test may be determined by the third party tester. The third party tester retains all fees collected for administering skills tests.

Do Third Party Testers issue the CDL?

Third party testers may only administer the CDL skills test. The driver must make application for a CDL, take the necessary knowledge tests, pay the license fee, and have the license processed at one of the DMV Service Centers.

How many testers and examiners are in the program?

There are 128 testers who employ approximately 235 examiners in the program. (This includes about 163 examiners who are certified to test school buses).

For more information contact:

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