

# New Made-In-Alberta Learning Pathway for Professional Drivers

## Commercial driver training

### Changes to Class 1 driver licensing

Effective April 1, 2025, the government will be making changes to Class 1 driver training and licensing. The changes are focused on developing driver competency throughout a driver's career while ensuring road safety. The learning pathway will be designed to improve safety through enhanced training for both current and prospective Class 1 drivers in Alberta.

- The new, made-in-Alberta career pathway is being designed as an apprenticeship-style model to increase driver skills, improve safety, and enhance training for current and prospective Class 1 drivers in Alberta.
- The apprenticeship-style model will offer a learning pathway for Albertans to develop the skills to succeed and advance in their career as a professional driver.
- Drivers will proceed through phases while training to become a Class 1 driver.
- Phases are currently under development in partnership with industry members. More information about these changes will be announced closer to the implementation date of April 1, 2025.

The new pathway will require more hours of in-vehicle training than the current program and will provide opportunities for ongoing competency training that will continue throughout a driver's career, increasing safety.

Government has allocated \$41 million in grant funding over the next three years to implement the new learning pathway and support drivers and carriers with enhanced training.

### Farm restricted Class 1 licences

Effective April 1, 2024, eligible farmers and their immediate family members will have the option to apply for a farm-restricted Class 1 driver's licence. Upon successful completion of a Class 1 knowledge and road test, vision screening, and submission of a driver's medical assessment, the driver will be issued a farm-restricted Class 1 driver's licence with condition code "P", indicating they must comply with farmer restrictions. The driver will not be required to complete pre-licensing training.

This Class 1 farm-restricted driver's licence is valid only when operating vehicles or combinations of vehicles for specified farming purposes.

Farm-restricted Class 1 drivers may also be subject to licence code restriction "N" which means the holder may not operate vehicles or combinations of vehicles which require a Class 2 or 4 driver's licence unless that person has completed the required knowledge and road tests as well as completed any other conditions of a Class 2 or 4 driver's licence.

Penalties will be assessed for those found to be misusing their farm-restricted Class 1 driver's licence. If the holder of a farm-restricted Class 1 driver's licence is found to have provided false information on their application, the Registrar may cancel their driver's licence.

More information on changes to commercial driver training in Alberta can be found here:  
<https://www.alberta.ca/changes-to-driver-licensing-system>.