Commercial Driver's License (CDL)

Description and Labor Market Information
A commercial driver's license (CDL) is a driver's license required to operate large, heavy, or hazardous material vehicles. There are various endorsements or add-ons for this certification depending on the intended use.

This credential was associated with 145 occupations that were identified as well-paying and in demand. Overall, those occupations represent 279,524 positions with 32,507 annual openings within the state and median hourly earnings of $28.65.

Sample Occupations

Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers
- Median Hourly Earnings: $22.49
- Typical Entry Level Education Requirement: Postsecondary nondegree award
- Total Positions: 3,727
- Annual Job Openings: 446

Light Truck or Delivery Services Drivers
- Median Hourly Earnings: $16.60
- Typical Entry Level Education Requirement: High school diploma or equivalent
- Total Positions: 5,166
- Annual Job Openings: 653

Bus and Truck Mechanics and Diesel Engine Specialists
- Median Hourly Earnings: $28.09
- Typical Entry Level Education Requirement: High school diploma or equivalent
- Total Positions: 870
- Annual Job Openings: 87

Certifying Entity Information
Department of Transportation
Website: www.cdl.com
Phone: (808) 768-9100, local office currently closed
Local Availability:
Training at LCC; exam at DMV

Exam Details
Age Requirement: 21
Coursework/Hours to Complete: None
Length of Certification Validity: N/A
Exam Cost: $50 written, $40 practical
Exam Time: N/A
Number of Questions: N/A
Pass Rate: N/A
PROMISING CREDENTIALS IN HAWAI‘I

This project has been a joint effort between Kamehameha Schools, the Chamber of Commerce Hawai‘i, University of Hawai‘i P-20, and the Harold K.L. Castle Foundation.

Students in Hawai‘i can earn hundreds of industry-recognized credentials right now. Thousands of students are investing time and resources to achieve these credentials with the hope they will lead to a career that enables them to live and thrive in Hawai‘i. But how effective are these programs at preparing Hawai‘i students for future careers and long-term success?

Promising Credentials in Hawai‘i, a first-of-its-kind analysis for our state, looks at whether the credentials students can earn actually matter in the real world to local employers.

Through intensive labor market analysis and outreach to local Hawai‘i businesses, this project has identified 137 Promising Credentials that are associated with in-demand, living wage occupations throughout the state. The process began with identifying 274 Promising Occupations that met wage and demand thresholds. A list of corresponding credentials for the 274 occupations was then compiled using job postings data. Finally, Hawai‘i employers from across the state completed surveys and participated in focus groups to narrow the list of nearly 2,000 credentials down to the 137 credentials they say matter most when making hiring and promotion decisions.

The resulting Promising Credentials were identified as relevant in hiring and promotional decisions for multiple in demand and well-paying occupations within the state. A detailed one-page summary of each of these Promising Credentials has been organized for student, school, and community use.

The comprehensive report and associated data can be found at www.HawaiiCareerPathways.org.