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**NEW YORK ASSOCIATION  
FOR PUPIL TRANSPORTATION**

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**NYAPT**

**Dear {Contact\_First\_Name} {Contact\_Last\_Name},**

Governor Hochul has just released a press announcement proposing to enable third party testing in New York. This is an initiative that NYAPT has advocated strongly for on behalf of the industry for several months. This will help provide prompt CDL testing in New York by adding more testing availability across the state. We thank Governor Hochul for her decisiveness on this issue and Senator Mike Martucci, who advocated on the industry's behalf to get this done.

### **Governor Hochul Announces Plan to Address Truck and Bus Driver Shortage**

Proposal Will Enable Third Parties to Conduct Commercial Driver License Road Tests

Public Hearing on January 26 to Allow Public Input on the Proposal

Builds on State's Efforts to Eliminate Barriers and Create Pathways for New CDL Holders

Governor Kathy Hochul today announced a plan to help address a critical shortage of truck and bus drivers by significantly expanding the availability of road tests for Commercial Driver License (CDL) applicants. The initiative would allow qualified third parties to offer the road tests, which would create more testing locations statewide and expand capacity at the existing state-run sites, reducing the time it takes to get qualified CDL drivers on the road.

The New York State Department of Motor Vehicles will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, January 26, to hear and review comments on the plan. The hearing will take place virtually via [WebEx](#) from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. It will be open for public comments, following a brief introduction by DMV representatives. Written comments may be submitted to [CDLThirdPartyTesting@dmv.ny.gov](mailto:CDLThirdPartyTesting@dmv.ny.gov) from January 18 to February 4.

"As we continue to fight this pandemic, we remain committed to expanding opportunities for New Yorkers, supporting our schools, and doing all we can to address the supply-chain issues that have affected many businesses throughout our state and country," Governor Hochul said. "By enabling third parties to give the road test for truck and bus drivers, we will create new avenues for New Yorkers to begin exciting careers, for our children to get to school, and to ensure that vital goods get where they need to be "

During the public hearing, the DMV will provide an overview of the proposal that calls for a phased roll out of this initiative that would initially allow other state agencies and authorities that have large fleets of commercial vehicles to begin conducting CDL road tests. The second phase would include qualified private entities. The DMV will establish a rigorous monitoring system to ensure that qualified CDL trainers safely administer the road tests in compliance with state and federal regulations. The DMV will use the feedback gathered during the public hearing to evaluate and develop an implementation plan.

DMV Commissioner Mark J.F. Schroeder said, "We at DMV know how important it is to have qualified truck and bus drivers on the road, and we are committed to doing what we can to address the need. We look forward to gathering public input at this hearing and then acting to enable qualified third parties to offer CDL road tests to give New Yorkers greater opportunity to take the test and to get good jobs driving these essential vehicles."

This new proposal is part of a series of actions taken by the State under Governor Kathy Hochul's leadership to remove barriers and recruit more drivers. In September, [Governor Hochul introduced](#) a variety of measures by multiple state agencies to address a shortage of school-bus drivers.

As part of that effort, the DMV expedited the process for obtaining a CDL by removing the 14-day waiting period between the permit test and the road tests. The state also increased capacity to administer road tests and, through cooperation with county-operated DMV offices, to increase testing capacity for written exams.

In addition, New York opened new CDL Driver Testing sites by partnering with SUNY, the Thruway Authority, New York Racing Association, and the Office of General Services to use large lots on their various sites for the road test. For school staff who held an existing CDL, the State set up expedited testing to obtain a permit that allows them to drive vans and buses temporarily.

Those interested in obtaining a Commercial Driver License can find more information at <https://dmv.ny.gov/commercial-drivers>.

For more information about DMV, visit [dmv.ny.gov](https://dmv.ny.gov), or follow DMV on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

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