

Columbia, SC Apprentice Orientation



Welcome!

On behalf of the TMC Family, we are pleased that you have chosen to be a part of our company. You have been extended an offer of employment dependent upon your evaluations during the New Hire Orientation. During orientation, you will be evaluated on the following; road driving, classroom work, load securement knowledge, and driver general knowledge. Based on these evaluations, we will be able to determine the appropriate training required. If you are unable to make it to orientation on time you must call 800.745.7386 (after-hours cell phone) or 800.247.2862 and leave a message. Failure to report for orientation or arriving late without first contacting recruiting may disqualify you for employment with TMC.

We look forward to seeing you!



Apprentice Orientation Program!

How long is training?

Your onsite training program will be 12 consecutive days. We provide transportation to South Carolina or pay you if you provide your own (contact your recruiter for specifics).

Over-the-road (OTR) training will last 5 weeks. During this phase you will gain on-the-job experience with a wide variety of real-world situations with an experienced Driver Trainer by your side.

How much will I be paid?

Pay is \$600 gross per week for orientation and \$600 gross per week while with a Driver Trainer. Additional bonus pay of \$150 in week three with a Driver Trainer and \$150 following the completion of training. A \$50 cash advance is made available to you on each Wednesday of orientation. You are also guaranteed a minimum of \$1,000 gross for each of your first two weeks in your own truck. Payroll is always for the week prior. Your first week's pay will be direct deposited on your second Friday. Afterwards, you will receive a direct deposit every Friday.

The above pay scale does not fully apply to dedicated positions. Contact your recruiter for specifics if you are dedicated.

How do lodging and meals work?

We pay for your hotel room (shared occupancy) and lunch for the entire 12 days while you are here in South Carolina.

Where will I stay during onsite training?

[Candlewood Suites Columbia—Ft Jackson](#)

921 Atlas Road
Columbia, SC 29209

803.727.1299

Please conduct yourself appropriately as you will be around families/children.

Rooms are shared occupancy. Any guest you bring will require you to pay for your own room up front and no refunds will be given. Also, you MUST notify your recruiter in advance in regards to bringing a guest. The hotel is often at capacity and it is very possible there will be no private rooms available without advance notice. Each room has a kitchenette (stove, fridge, microwave, sink, pots and pans, etc). No breakfast available, but there are fast food options in the immediate vicinity as well as a grocery store.



"Come prepared so there won't be any surprises to trip you up."



When should I arrive in Columbia?

The best time to arrive is no later than early Sunday evening. This allows you time to get settled in and provides for a good night's sleep. Monday will be a very long and busy day! Please call checker yellow cab at 803.799.3311 for a shuttle from the bus station to the hotel. It will be provided to you at no charge.

The training center is approximately 10 minutes away. There will be a shuttle bus departing from the main lobby on Monday at 0600, SHARP. Do not be late!

What should I bring and not bring with me to Columbia?

- ◇ Your hard-copy Class A license. If your state is mailing your Class A license to you, then you MUST bring valid paperwork showing the Class A license has been issued. Bring your previous hard-copy license, as well.
- ◇ Your social security card (not the letter saying one has been ordered). If you don't have a social security card, then in its place you will need either a passport or a certified copy of your birth certificate with the official raised seal.
- ◇ Your passport, if you have one. Your TWIC card, if you have one.
- ◇ We only pay by direct deposit. We highly recommend you bring a check with void written across the face so there are no mistakes and your deposit isn't delayed. If you do not have a bank account we can provide you with an ATM card account (you will be responsible for fees).
- ◇ You are required to wear work boots for the first day of class due to the physical assessment as well as during the load securement training phase. Steel-toed is strongly recommended, but not required. We also recommend you bring gloves.
- ◇ Birthdates and social security numbers of any family members you will be placing on your insurance.
- ◇ Work clothes/rain jacket. Part of the training is outdoors.
- ◇ Rand-McNally Motor Carrier atlas.
- ◇ If you wear contacts, then bring your glasses as well in case you were to lose or damage a contact.
- ◇ A set of headphones/ear buds. Just the standard jack you would find for MP3 players, etc. (1/8" or 3.5mm) Required!
- ◇ Leave valuables such as jewelry, computers, etc., at home. We are not responsible for theft/missing items.
- ◇ No weapons or alcoholic beverages allowed on hotel or company property.
- ◇ We strongly recommend you bring at least 7 days of clothing to try and reduce the amount of your laundry time. Washers and dryers are provided at no charge.
- ◇ Driving school loan paperwork if you want to be enrolled in our tuition reimbursement program.



Company policies:

Hair no longer than collar length and no visible body-piercing to include earrings and tongue studs. Tattoos that contain demeaning or offensive images/text are not permitted. All tattoos must be covered while at customer locations. Beards must be neatly trimmed. Accommodation of religious beliefs in regards to grooming and/or appearance may be difficult in light of safety issues or if they create an undue hardship, however trainees requesting a workplace grooming and/or appearance accommodation based upon religious beliefs should contact the Human Resources department.

Shorts, sweatpants, sleeveless shirts, and sandals are not permitted during work hours.

Passenger policy begins after 90 days in your own truck. Contact your recruiter for specifics.

If you have to wait for a Driver Trainer assignment, there is no pay during the waiting period. Normally, there is minimal to no waiting.

Days off during training are not permitted except for special circumstances such as military duty, major family emergencies, etc., and must be approved by your recruiter prior to arriving at training, when applicable.

During the over-the-road training phase we cannot guarantee home time.

General information:

There is always a slight possibility of directly leaving orientation with your Driver Trainer, so plan accordingly.

If you have any questions, please call your recruiter. There are no bad questions. This is a big step for you!



Summary of the physical you will be taking during the pre-hire process:

Based on DOT/FMCSR regulations/recommendations and the [essential job functions](#) of a driver at TMC, we would like you to understand the process, so you can come better prepared.

A company/DOT physical and drug screen will be conducted first thing Monday morning. Please refrain from a large breakfast and avoid sweets and caffeine. On Tuesday morning you will also complete a [physical assessment](#).

The physical and assessment are not only designed to meet minimum DOT/FMCSR requirements/recommendations, but they are also designed to meet the essential job functions of a driver's position at TMC.

Medications - It is possible that the physician may require documentation pertaining to your medication and the diagnosis that required that medication based upon DOT/FMCSR regulations/recommendations. The process is quicker if you know your physician's name, phone and fax numbers prior to attending orientation in case this information is inquired of by the physician performing the physical.

Hernias/injuries/surgeries - These situations could restrict you in performing the essential functions of the job. If you had any surgeries or medical problems that might prohibit you from performing the job, then the physician may require you to provide documentation from your surgeon. Your surgeon may be required to complete a form identifying any physical limitations you may or may not have in performing the job. If you have an existing hernia that has not been repaired, then it is almost certain that you will not pass the physical until it is repaired.

Cardiovascular - The DOT/FMCSR regulations/recommendations are very specific and normally require a stress test annually after a cardiac event. The process will be faster if you know your physician's name, phone and fax numbers in case the physician performing the physical has any follow up questions. (They need annual cardiologist reports which may require studies to show ejection fractions along with medication tolerance. Depending upon your condition, will determine how often stress tests are needed.)

Sleep Apnea - If you have been diagnosed with sleep apnea the DOT/FMCSR regulations/recommendations require an annual study to show that you have no problems during the daytime and that you are using your machine as instructed. Please bring a current printout of your machine's data for the past 90 days of usage in case the physician requests this information from you. We don't have the ability to download this data for you.

Blood pressure - If your blood pressure exceeds the 140/90 mark, then based on DOT/FMCSR regulations/recommendations you will be required to see your physician to get your blood pressure under control before you can operate a vehicle requiring a CDL.

Sugar/protein/blood in urine - If levels of these are above normal you may be required to see your physician due to DOT/FMCSR regulations/recommendations.

Vision - Your vision must be correctable to no worse than 20/40 in each eye separately due to DOT/FMCSR regulations/recommendations.

Hearing - If you suffer from any type of hearing loss the physician may require that you take an audio exam at your cost. If you wear hearing aids, then you need to make sure you meet the DOT/FMCSR regulations by carrying spare batteries. You may also be required to provide audiogram results with your hearing aids in place.

Psychiatric disorders - If you have been diagnosed with depression, anxiety, bi-polar, etc, then your physician will be required to complete a form for us based upon DOT/FMCSR regulations/recommendations. Be sure and let your recruiter know ahead of time, so we can get this completed prior to you taking the physical in orientation.