

Virginia's *Troops to Trucks*SM Program

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Introduction

- Before we begin:
 - Introduction
 - Why I'm here
 - Outline of the presentation

Presentation Outline

- I. Introduction
- II. Program Overview
- III. A Brief History of *Troops to Trucks*SM
- IV. Putting A Plan in Place
- V. Challenges Faced
- VI. The Program Today & Additional Benefits
- VII. The Future of the Program
- VIII. Summary



Program Overview

- The partnership between DMV, military, and transportation-related businesses that:
 - Waives the CDL skills test for applicants with a military CDL and two years of driving experience
 - Provide On-Base services such as:
 - Commercial motor vehicle training for those without this experience
 - Opportunities for completing the written and skills test portions of the CDL application process
 - Processing and issuance of the CDL through DMV's mobile customer service centers



Program Overview...(cont'd)

- Assist in the completion of required medical certification (can be cumbersome & confusing)
- Work with wounded service men and women
- Match candidates with prospective employees that complete the program

Benefits of *Troops to Trucks*SM

- Eases the transition into civilian life,
- Aids military families in securing employment, getting jobs to Veterans and Active Duty members (after service)
- Streamlines DMV's processes, and cuts the red tape for our veteran members,
- Addresses the trucking industry shortage of qualified licensed commercial drivers

Eligibility Requirements

1. Be a Virginia resident currently holding or eligible for a Virginia driver's license (proof of [legal presence](#) may be required);
2. Have two or more years of military heavy truck/bus driving experience;
3. Be active military (including the Reserves and National Guard) or have been released from the military within the last 12 months.
4. Submit the following documents to DMV:
 1. CDL Skills Test Waiver Military Application ([DL 13](#))
 2. Commercial Driver's License Application ([DL 2P](#))
 3. U.S. Department of Transportation Medical Examiner's Certificate
 4. DD-214, DD-256, or NGB-22 OR U.S. Active Duty/Reservist Military ID Card if you have not been discharged from the military
5. Be certified by their commanding officer or designee as possessing (1) a military operator's permit and (2) at least two years experience driving the same type of vehicle that the applicant plans to drive with a Virginia CDL. (For a list of CDL vehicle types, refer to [CDL Classifications, Restrictions, and Endorsements](#).)
6. Successfully complete the written knowledge exam
7. If necessary, pass additional knowledge and skills tests for specialized endorsements (hazardous materials, school bus, etc.), and
8. Have a safe driving record.

Military Base as Third Party Testers Requirements

- Same Third Party Tester training as private sector
- Required to complete:
 - a classroom component
 - and range training component to conduct the CDL skills tests only.

A Brief History of *Troops to Trucks*SM

Developed to address two specific problems while meeting Governor Bob McDonnell's initiative and commitment of making Virginia the most military friendly state in the nation.

- It looked at addressing:
 - The issue of higher unemployment rates among veterans that had served since September 2001, which stood at 10.9% in comparisons to the unemployment rate of 8.1%. (Figures are from 2012)
 - Address the driver shortage in the trucking industry across the nation.

Why Virginia?

- Home to more than 823,000 veterans
- Have more than 20 major military installations throughout the state, and
- Had approximately 63,000 Active Duty military members living in Virginia.

A Plan in Place

Five-Point Plan:

1. Waived the skills test or “One Less Test”
2. On-Base Training which established military bases as third party testers
3. Putting Troops to TrucksSM Graduates to Work—
“Empowering for Employment”
4. Supporting Wounded Veterans—Addressing Physical Impairments
5. Getting the Word Out—Public Awareness

A Plan in Place...cont'd

- Project Plan with Deliverables & Milestones:
 - Identifying Business Requirements
 - Developing Form Requirements
 - Developing Business Procedures
 - Develop Data Entry Procedures
 - Conduct System Programming
 - PR Campaign

Our Military Partners

- Military Partners included:
 - Fort Lee
 - Fort Pickett
 - Marine Corps Base Quantico
 - Naval Weapons Station
 - Langley AFB

Transportation Partners

- Virginia Trucking Association
- Virginia Motorcoach Association
- Virginia Association for Pupil Transportation

Additional Partners

- Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA)
- Department of Veteran Services
- Department of Homeland Security
- Southside Virginia Community College

Challenges Faced

- Concern for fraud
- Automatic and Manual Transmission
- Tactical vs. Commercial

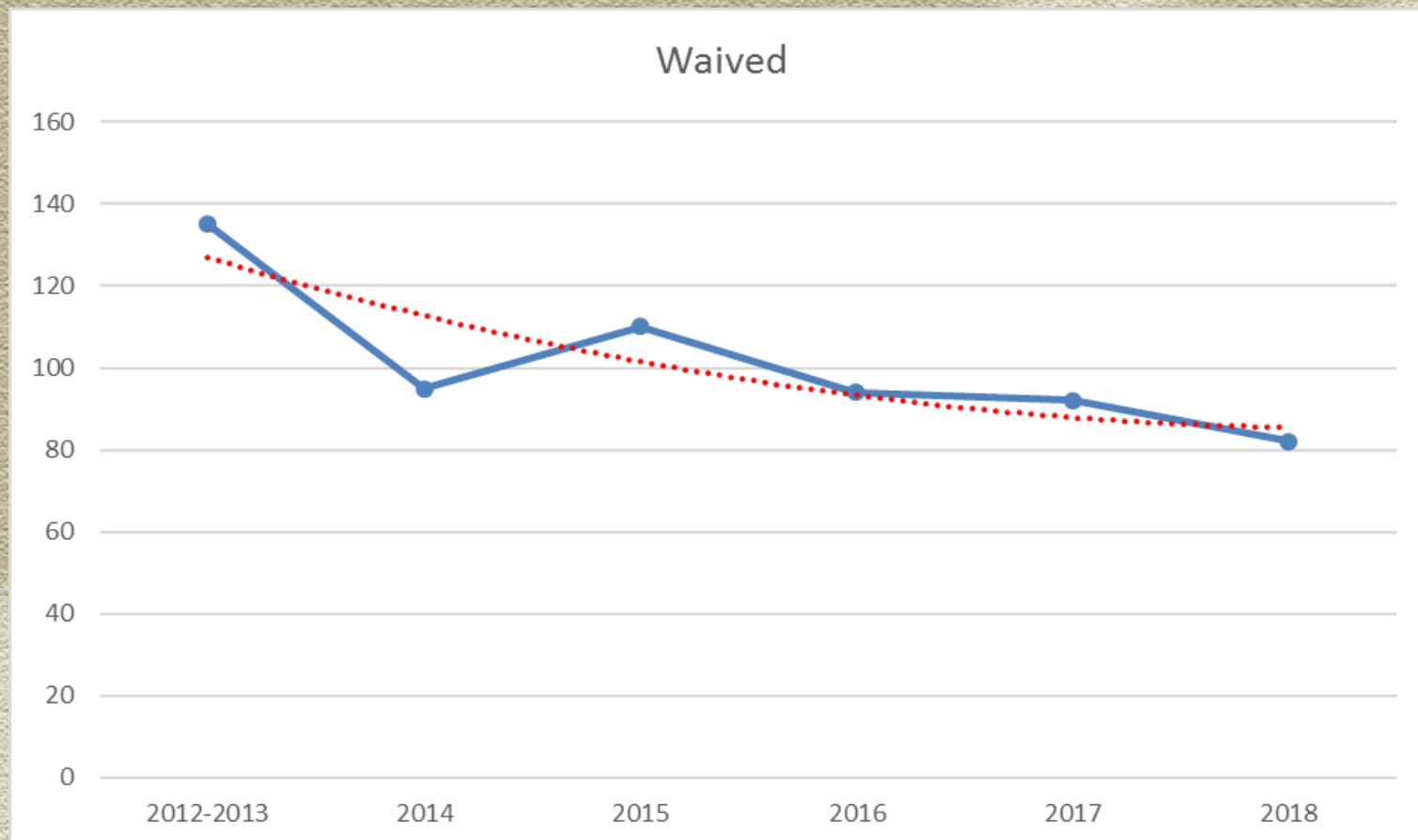
The Program Today

- Since implementing the program:
 - Waived 634 skills test
 - (avg. 91 per FY)
 - 182 T2T Graduates
 - 816 CDLs Issued

Additional Benefits of *Troops to Trucks*SM

- Saved 182 hrs DLQA man hours = 4.5wks
- Potential \$6,000 savings on driving school cost
- CDL Transaction wait time in a Customer Service Center

Tests Waived



Where the Numbers Come From

CDL Waivers Issued by Military Branch

Military Branch	Count
US Army	496
US Navy	63
US Air Force	49
USMC	44
USCG	11
Total	663

3rd Party Testers for CDLs

Location	Count
Ft. Pickett	0
Ft. Lee	16
Quantico	15
Naval Weapons Station	141
Naval Special Warfare Dev	3
Langley	7
Total	182

What's next for *Troops to Trucks*SM?

- Working on Even Exchange Implementation:
 - “Allows qualified military drivers to be exempt from the knowledge test for obtaining a CDL. When used with the Military Skills Test Waiver, this allows a driver to exchange a military license for a CDL...” (FMCSA, 2018)
 - Only for certain MOS types

Summary

- Discussed the following:
 - Program Overview
 - Background of the program
 - Food for thought or challenges
 - Our current program
 - The Future of the Program