

> INFORMATION BULLETIN

for Heavy Vehicle Drivers, Owners and Operators



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NEW REQUIREMENTS FOR OBTAINING THE T ENDORSEMENT

Effective December 15, 2014, all heavy vehicle drivers who wish to obtain the T endorsement must successfully complete a special training course at one of Québec's school board-administered transportation training centres.

The T endorsement allows drivers to drive an outsize double road train, which is a road train of more than 25 metres in length made up of a tractor and two semi-trailers.

The training course was developed in order to:

- increase the safety of all road users; and
- foster the harmonization and recognition of qualifications among Québec road train drivers and those from other eastern provinces.

NEW REQUIREMENTS

In order to obtain the T endorsement, an aspiring outsize double road train driver must successfully complete the new training course, which replaces the knowledge test that was previously required. However, a driver must still have over five years of driving experience as a Class 1 licence holder to be eligible for the T endorsement.

Drivers who hold a T endorsement obtained before December 15, 2014 will not be required to take the training course.

TRAINING COURSE

The T endorsement training course was developed based on Canadian Trucking Alliance recommendations and Québec regulations for driving outsize double road trains. The course takes place over **two days** and includes 16 hours of instruction on the theoretical and practical aspects of driving an outsize double road train.

The training course costs approximately \$830 and is offered at the Centre de formation en transport de Charlesbourg (Québec) and the Centre de formation du transport routier (Saint-Jérôme). It is offered during the period during which driving an outsize double road train is authorized, that is, between March 1 and November 30. The Ministère des Transports du Québec (MTQ), which is responsible for the application of the *Special Road Train Operating Permits Regulation*, is currently working with the transportation training centres to determine the conditions under which outsize double road trains could be operated during the winter for instructional purposes. Winter training courses may be offered as soon as next December.

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Québec 



Participants are not required to hold any particular licence or certificate to take part in the practical segment of the course. A driver needs only to be accompanied by a designated instructor in order to drive an outsize double road train: no additional requirements apply. Each participant will be assessed throughout the course to ensure that he or she meets the training objectives and has the skills necessary to drive an outsize double road train. Successful participants will be issued an attestation to present at an SAAQ service centre in order to have the T endorsement added to a driver's licence.

For more information on the training course for driving a road train of over 25 metres in length, please contact one of the two transportation training centres.

NAFMP TRAINING

Did you know that you can now be taught the North American Fatigue Management Program (NAFMP) by professional instructors? The transportation training centres, in collaboration with the SAAQ, began offering training based on NAFMP material in the fall of 2014. Assessments of the knowledge and skills acquired by program participants are also available. Please contact one of the two transportation training centres for more information about the NAFMP training program and the cost of participating.

The NAFMP, which began in 2013, aims to:

- reduce driver fatigue;
- improve the quality of life of drivers;
- reduce the number of fatigue-related accidents; and
- reduce the costs associated with driver fatigue.

The program is available free of charge at www.pnagf.com.

TO FIND OUT MORE

> **Contact one of the two transportation training centres**

- Centre de formation en transport de Charlesbourg (Québec)
- Centre de formation du transport routier (Saint-Jérôme)

> **Visit the SAAQ's Web site**

- Heavy Vehicle Combination (Class 1) –T endorsement
- North American Fatigue Management Program

