



# NORTH PEACE

## COMMERCIAL DRIVING ACADEMY

### CLASS 1 DRIVING SCHOOL

**Q:** When will you begin accepting students?

Currently, we are in the process of having our instructors and facility provincially certified. This is a lengthy process. Please watch the website, [www.prsd.ab.ca](http://www.prsd.ab.ca), for news regarding more definite timelines.

**Q:** How many students will be in each class?

As per provincial regulations, we can take up to 15 students. At this time, we are still refining the details regarding how many students we will take per session.

**Q:** Have you started a waitlist of interested individuals?

We are collecting the names and contact information of people who are interested in this program.

**Q:** Do you have to be a PRSD student to enroll in the MELT program through the Driving Academy?

No, anyone who meets the basic requirements can enroll.

**Q:** What are the prerequisites for participating in the MELT program?

Prior to participating in the MELT program, students must:

- Be at least 18 years of age
- Hold an Alberta non-probationary driver's license
- Have successfully completed the Air Brake course, which can be included in the Class 1 Melt program.

It is also strongly encouraged that students complete a successful medical assessment through a physician or nurse practitioner prior to participating in the MELT program. Medical forms are available from a registry agent, or a doctor.

**Q:** What is a non-probationary license?

In order to have a non-probationary license you must:

- be at least 18 years of age
- have completed 24 months of probationary driving
  - Drivers can reduce their probationary period by up to six months by successfully completing a Class 5 or Class 6 driver training program.
- be suspension and demerit free for the last 12 months
- be a Canadian citizen, a Canadian permanent resident, hold a valid work visa, and/or have an approved refugee claim from the Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada

**Q:** Will the Driving Academy offer the Air Brake course?

Yes, students will be able to complete their Air Brake course through the Driving Academy.

**Q:** How long does it take to complete the MELT program?

The MELT program requires a total of 113 hours. There are 40.5 required classroom hours, 15.5 in-yard hours, and 57 total behind-the-wheel hours.

**Q:** Will you offer Class 3 driver training?

Not at this time.

**Q:** I already have my Class 3, do I need to take the entire Class 1 MELT program?

No. If you have at least two years of continuous Class 3 driving experience, you can take a shortened equivalency version of the Class 1 MELT program. Unfortunately, the Driving Academy is not offering this program at this time.

**Q:** Will I have a Class 1 drivers license after I complete this course?

After you have successfully completed all 113 hours of the MELT program, then you will be eligible to take the Class 1 written exam at a Provincial Registries office and a road test with a provincially-appointed driving examiner.

**Q:** Will you provide a truck and trailer for the Class 1 road test with the Provincial examiner?

Yes, North Peace Commercial Driving Academy students can use our truck and trailer for their road test, if taken locally. There may be a fee for this service.

**Q:** Do you have a truck simulator?

A truck simulator is on our wish list as we recognize the benefit of this technology goes well beyond the Driving Academy. There may be opportunity for Class 2 driving schools, municipalities, emergency services, and individuals with a Class 5 license to also utilize this equipment.

**Q:** Is there opportunity for students of the driving school to also complete High School?

If you did not complete high school, we can connect you with the Peace River School Division's alternative education program where you can continue to work toward high school completion.

For high school students currently enrolled in a Peace River School Division school and on track to graduate, we can coordinate with your school to have you take the MELT program during school hours.

**Q:** Who can I contact for more information?

For more information, please contact:

Natasha Directo,  
North Peace Commercial Driving School Program Coordinator  
780-624-3601 ext. 10810  
northpeacedrivingacademy@prsd.ab.ca

# FAQ

## NORTH PEACE

### COMMERCIAL DRIVING ACADEMY

#### CLASS 2S DRIVING SCHOOL

**Q:** What are the prerequisites for participating in the Class 2S driver training program?

**Prior to participating in the Class 2 program, students must:**

- **Be at least 18 years of age and hold a valid Class 5 driver's license**
- **Obtain a satisfactory medical report, completed by a physician or nurse practitioner. Medical forms are available from a registry agent, or a doctor.**

**Q:** How often do you train new bus drivers?

**We try to schedule training as soon as possible after the minimum requirements are met.**

**Q:** How much does the Class 2S program cost?

**There is no fee for the Class 2 MELT program through the North Peace Commercial Driving Academy and Peace River School Division. Training fees do apply for non-PRSD trainees.**

**Q:** How long does it take to complete the Class 2S program?

**The Class 2S program requires 18 hours of classroom instruction, 11.5 hours of in-yard instruction, and 24 hours of behind-the-wheel instruction for a total of 53.5 hours.**

**Q:** Will I have a Class 2S drivers license after I complete this course?

**After you successfully completed all 53.5 hours of the program, then you will be eligible to take the Class 2S written exam at a Provincial Registries office and a road test with a provincially-appointed driving examiner.**

**Q:** Can I obtain the S-endorsement training only?

**Yes, if you already have a valid Class 1 or Class 2 license. This would require a minimum of 16 hours of classroom and on-road training with an instructor.**

**Q:** Will you provide a bus for the Class 2S road test with the Provincial examiner?

**Yes, North Peace Commercial Driving Academy students can use one of our busses for their road test, if taken locally. There may be a fee for this service.**

**Q:** Will I be paid for the time I invested into the course if I become a bus driver for the Peace River School Division?

**Yes, upon successfully obtaining your Class 2S license, the PRSD does provide payment for the time drivers invested in their training.**

**Q:** What hours are typically required of a school bus driver?

**Typically three to four hours per day depending on the bus route.**

**Q:** Can my toddler or preschooler ride the bus when I am driving?

**Yes, upon approval by the transportation manager.**

**Q:** Do I need to be certified in First Aid?

**It is not a condition of pre-employment, but upon hiring the PRSD will arrange training.**

**Q:** How many bus routes does the PRSD operate?

Currently, we operate 70 bus routes, including a specialized run for the St. Thomas More school in Fairview. Our drivers collectively travel approximately 12,500 km every day.

**Q:** I am a College student, can I apply to be a bus driver?

Yes! If the AM/PM bus route times work with your class schedule, then driving bus is an excellent way to earn money to help pay for tuition.

**Q:** Who do I contact for more information?

For more information, please contact:  
Merlin Lee or Tammy Glenn  
Peace River School Division Transportation Office  
780-624-3006

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