



Enrol Now

NZ Certificate in Commercial Road Transport

Heavy Vehicle Operator - Level 3

With this qualification you'll be eligible for a wide range of employment opportunities in any industry where vehicles are driven and in areas where a range of licence classes are required, such as the transport, logging, construction and roading.

This qualification gives you the skills and knowledge to safely and competently operate rigid vehicles or heavy vehicle combinations. You will work towards gaining your Class 2 & 4 Licenses and potentially Class 5. Graduates also complete a range of driving endorsements.

Location	Tairāwhiti Rural Studies Unit
Start	February and August
Length	20 weeks full-time
Contact	primaryindustries@eit.ac.nz 0800 22 55 348

Are you driven to succeed?

The EIT Commercial Road Transport programme is designed to take you through the licenses you need to get a job in the heavy road transport industry. You can get your Class 2, 4 and even 5 (if you meet requirements) and you get a New Zealand Certificate as well.

The road transport industry is short of qualified drivers, especially Class 5 drivers who can operate truck and trailer units. This programme is well supported by industry and learners arrange work experience with local transport operators who are willing to help train the next generation of drivers. In the work experience part of the programme you travel alongside experienced drivers and help them out on the job.

The classroom sessions run by our experienced tutors give you the background knowledge you need to operate trucks safely in the modern environment.

EIT owns its own truck and trailer in which you can gain experience in driving a big rig and in which you can sit your licence.

The success rate for men and women in getting employment at the end of the programme is very high.

If you are looking to get into the transport industry then this is the place to start as our programme is well regarded in industry and employers seek out our graduates.

Subject areas

- Commercial road transport legislation
- Regulation and standards
- Health and safety in the workplace
- Hazard identification and risk management
- Driver health and fatigue management
- Safe driving skills, navigation and communication
- Vehicle technology
- Loading and unloading
- Specialized vehicle operation
- Forklift
- Dangerous goods
- First Aid

Career and study opportunities

If you are under 25

- You need to have held a Class 1 Full licence for a minimum of six months.
- You can do your Class 2 Full licence immediately on this programme (you must hold a Class 2 Learner (Theory) licence prior to starting).
- If you have held your Class 2 Full licence for six months prior to the programme, you are able to gain your Class 4 licence immediately on this programme.
- If you have held a Class 4 licence for a minimum of six months, you are able to gain your Class 5 licence on this programme.

If you are 25 or over

- You need to have held a Class 1 Full licence for a minimum of six months.
- You can do your Class 2 Full licence immediately on this programme (you must hold a Class 2 Learner (Theory) licence prior to starting).
- If you have held your Class 2 Full licence for three months, then you are able to gain your Class 4 licence immediately on this programme.
- If you have held your Class 2 Full licence for three months prior to the programme, you are able to gain your Class 4 and Class 5 licences on this programme.
- If you have held a Class 4 licence for a minimum of three months, you are able to gain your Class 5 licence on this programme.

There are a variety of driving opportunities available upon graduating depending on the class of licence achieved.



NZ Certificate in Commercial Road Transport (Heavy Vehicle Operator)

Level 3, 90 credits



Tairāwhiti Rural Studies Unit



Full-time:
20 weeks



Fee: Visit fees.eit.ac.nz to see the fees for this programme



2026 Key Dates

Various start dates throughout the year - please contact the Programme Administrator for full details.

Intake One Starts: Monday, 23 February
Ends: Friday, 17 July

Intake Two Starts: Monday, 3 August
Ends: Friday, 18 December

Semester Breaks 27 April - 10 May and Public Holidays
12- 23 October and Public Holidays

Timetable

Your study time will be made up of contact time (class times, tutorials and industry-based training) and non-contact time (your own individual study time).

Contact time

On-campus classes are usually scheduled between 8.00am-3.30pm, Monday to Friday.

For a current timetable, please refer to eit.ac.nz/students/timetable.

Non-contact time

You should plan to spend five (5) hours of individual study per course per week including scheduled classroom time.

Entry Requirements

Academic requirements

Applicants must:

- Have NCEA Level 1; or
- A qualification at Level 1 or above, with evidence of literacy and numeracy abilities equivalent to NCEA (Level 1); or
- Evidence of relevant knowledge and experience, including literacy and numeracy abilities equivalent to NCEA (Level 1). (In this case the applicant may be required to participate in an enrolment interview with the purpose of verifying the evidence.)

Other requirements

Applicants must:

- Have held a New Zealand Class 1 Full licence for a minimum of six months.
- Hold a Class 2 Learner (Theory) licence prior to starting the programme.
- Demonstrate the ability to drive a manual gearbox vehicle.
- Obtain a NZ Transport Agency (NZTA) DL9 medical certificate in no more than 60 days.
- Due to NZTA licensing requirements, no international learners can be enrolled.

All applicants are required to attend an interview with the programme tutor, you may bring whānau support if you want. You must bring your current licence with you when attending the interview.

Literacy and numeracy skills

A literacy and numeracy assessment is part of the preparation for all level one to three programmes. This is a national requirement from the Tertiary Education Commission (TEC). This information gives your tutors information on what you already know to help them provide the help that you may need in your studies.

There are two assessments. The first assessment will take place within the first three weeks of the programme. The second will be a week or two before you finish the programme. This final assessment will show how you have improved with your Literacy and Numeracy skills.

There will always be a tutor to help you when doing the assessment. The most important thing to know about this assessment is that you cannot fail. You will merely get information on your literacy and numeracy skills. The result will not have an impact on any of your assessment marks in your course work. learners, group meeting rooms and a wide range of academic resources.

The experience you need & the support to succeed

When you study at EIT you'll get the kind of experiences that will help you gain the knowledge and skills to get ahead.

You'll also be supported by lecturers and tutors who are here for you, within a learning environment where you are treated as an individual, not just a number.

They'll know your name and you'll receive one-on-one attention to make sure you get the support to succeed.

Experienced Lecturers

At EIT, you can be confident in the quality of our teaching and your learning experience.

EIT is highly regarded in New Zealand for research excellence due to the quality of our community centred research, our publications and our external grant income provided by funding institutions who have confidence in our research capability. You can be confident your lecturers use the latest knowledge and research in their field of expertise to inform their teaching, and many are at the forefront of knowledge creation within their discipline area.

Course Descriptions

Course No.	Brief Description	NZQA Level	No. of Credits
CCRT3.01	Introductory Skills To enable learners to comply with commercial road transport rules and regulations and manage their driving performance to ensure the safety of self and others..	3	20
CCRT3.02	Industry Skills To enable learners to apply basic industry skills as they navigate their legal responsibilities as heavy vehicle operators.	3	20
CCRT3.03	Vehicle Technology To enable learners to become familiar with the range of technological innovations and how these are used on a heavy combination or rigid vehicle.	3	15
CCRT3.04	Professional Operator Skills To enable learners to show professional behaviours and skills and to apply these in work placement contexts.	3	15
CCRT3.05	Specialist Driving Skills To enable learners to carry out appropriate safety checks and safely operate a heavy vehicle..	5	20

How to Enrol

There is an easy 3-step process to follow when enrolling at EIT.

Step 1

Check out eit.ac.nz to see the programmes available for you to study. A copy of the course information for each programme is available on our website.

Step 2

You can now use your RealMe verified identity to apply for study at EIT. If you use your RealMe verified identity you will no longer be sent a copy of your application form to sign. You also will not need to provide us with a copy of your primary ID.

If you apply online without using RealMe then you will be sent a summary of your enrolment to check and sign. It will also include course selection forms which you need to complete and return. Your enrolment cannot progress until you have sent the summary and forms back to us.

You can also apply using a paper enrolment form. Please call us on 0800 22 55 348 and we will send you one out.

You will receive an acceptance letter from your Faculty with programme information. This will include the start date of your study and any special information regarding your programme. Depending on your chosen programme of study, you may be invited to attend an interview before you are accepted.

Step 3

Arrangement for full payment of enrolment fees must be made before the start of your programme. You will receive an invoice with payment details.

Fees Free Government Scheme: Tertiary education is fees-free for eligible domestic tertiary students. To check if you are eligible, go to FeesFree.govt.nz and enter your National Student Number (NSN). If you are not eligible you will be responsible for paying your fees.

Scholarships and Grants: Scholarships and grants make life easier by helping to cover your fees, other costs and living expenses while you study. You don't always need to be an academic high-flyer to qualify. You can find out more about scholarships and other options for paying your fees at eit.ac.nz.

StudyLink: If you need to pay for your own study you can choose to apply for your Student Loan and Student Allowance with StudyLink. You should do this early, even if you haven't yet been accepted on your programme. You can change your details later if anything changes. Visit studylink.govt.nz to find out more about StudyLink.

Student Services Levy

The student services levy is a compulsory non-tuition fee that is charged to students enrolled at EIT. The levy is to contribute to the provision of quality student services that support learning. The funds received by EIT from the levy are ring-fenced, meaning they can only be spent on student services.

Student Loans and Allowances

StudyLink is a service of the Ministry of Social Development. Apply well before your programme begins (even if you haven't been accepted yet) so you'll be ready to get your payments when you need them most.

Check out what you qualify for at studylink.govt.nz.



DISCLAIMER:

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All information in this publication pertains to New Zealand Citizens or Permanent Residents, and is correct at the time of printing but is subject to change. EIT reserves the right to amend/withdraw programmes or courses.

Fees for 2026 will be set by November 2025 and are subject to change. For the latest information, or for full programme entry requirements visit eit.ac.nz or phone 0800 22 55 348.