

Drivers' Licenses: Waiving CDL Skills Test If Certain Military Experience, Credit for Out-of-State Instruction Permit Experience; SB 334

SB 334 allows the Director of Vehicles, Kansas Department of Revenue, to waive the skills test for an applicant for a commercial driver's license (CDL) if that applicant provides evidence of certain military commercial vehicle driving experience. The bill requires the applicant's military driving experience to meet the requirements of 49 CFR 383.77. Those include a requirement that the applicant was operating a vehicle representative of the commercial motor vehicle the applicant expects to operate, for at least the two years immediately preceding discharge from the military, and a requirement that the applicant has not been convicted of any offense (such as driving under the influence of alcohol or a controlled substance) that would disqualify a civilian commercial driver. An applicant still will be required to pass the Kansas knowledge test for driving a commercial motor vehicle.

The bill also allows the Division of Vehicles, Kansas Department of Revenue, to issue a restricted license to someone who obtained an instructional permit from another state or the District of Columbia if the other state's requirements for an instructional permit are the same or greater than Kansas requirements. Kansas requires an applicant for a restricted license to have held an instructional permit for at least one year and complete at least 25 hours of adult-supervised driving.