



DDS
GEORGIA DEPARTMENT
OF DRIVER SERVICES

Non-Commercial Class A and Class B Driver's Handbook



NON-COMMERCIAL CLASS A AND B LICENSING INFORMATION

In Georgia, vehicles are classified according to the type of license required to operate them, which is based on their Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVWR). **Class A and B licenses in particular, may be either Commercial or Non-Commercial.** The GVWR information for these two types of licenses is listed below:

Class A—Any combination of vehicles with a GVWR of 26,001 or more pounds, provided the GVWR of the vehicle being towed is in excess of 10,000 pounds.

Class B—Any single vehicle with a GVWR in excess of 26,001 pounds or any such vehicle towing a vehicle with a GVWR not in excess of 10,000 pounds.

Operators of certain vehicles falling within the Class A and B categories are ***not required to obtain a Commercial License*** in Georgia, ***but must obtain a non-commercial Class A or B License*** in order to legally operate the vehicle.

Unlike the Commercial Driver's License, there are **no endorsements** for the Non-Commercial Class A or B License. **If the applicant intends to operate the vehicle for profit or for commercial purposes, they must apply for a Commercial Driver's License (CDL).** For specific requirements and information on CDLs, please refer to the Georgia Commercial Driver's Manual. Driver's Manuals may be obtained from any of our Customer Service Centers and may also be downloaded from **www.dds.ga.gov**.

Licensing Requirements

To obtain a non-commercial Class A or B License, the applicant:

- ◆ Must be at least **18 years of age**.
- ◆ Must possess a **Class C License**.
- ◆ Must pass any **Knowledge Exams** which would normally be required of applicants for a Commercial Driver's License for the type of vehicle driven. Refer to the CDL Driver's Manual for specific information to study for the Knowledge Exam.
- ◆ Must complete a **Driving Affidavit (DS-36)** attesting that a minimum of 3 months or 3,000 miles of driving experience has been completed in a vehicle which represents the license class. An instructional permit may be issued for a 12 month period if this cannot be provided. **There is not a Road Test Requirement.**
- ◆ Must pass a **Vision Exam**. The minimum acceptable vision is 20/60 in one eye, with or without corrective lenses, and a field of vision of at least 140 degrees.
- ◆ Must pay the appropriate **license fee**. The 5 year license is \$20 and the 10 year license is \$35. Individuals with a Distinctive License (Veteran's, National Guard, or Honorary License) are exempt from paying the license fee. For more information on distinctive licenses, please visit www.dds.ga.gov.

Vehicles which require a Non-Commercial Class A or B License are agricultural vehicles, military vehicles, and firefighter /emergency vehicles. Specific conditions for each vehicle type are listed below:

Agricultural Vehicles - all of the following conditions must be met:

- ◆ must be controlled/operated by the farmer, relatives of the farmer, or employees of the farmer
- ◆ must be used to transport agricultural products, farm machinery, or farm supplies to or from a farm
- ◆ must be operated within 150 miles of the farm.
- ◆ must not be operating as a common carrier (for profit or trade/barter)



Military Vehicles being operated by military personnel or civilians who are required to wear military uniforms.



Firefighter/ Emergency Vehicles - all of the following conditions must be met:

- ◆ must be equipped with lights and a siren
- ◆ must be a vehicle necessary for the preservation of lives or property or the execution of emergency governmental functions (such as fire trucks, hook and ladder trucks, foam or water transport trucks, police special operations vehicles, and ambulances)
- ◆ must be exempt from normal traffic regulations when operating as an authorized emergency vehicle



Please note that operators of **recreational vehicles** are *not* required to obtain a commercial driver's license or a Class A or B non-commercial license if the vehicle is a self-propelled or towed vehicle equipped to serve as temporary living quarters for recreational camping or travel purposes and is used solely as a family personal conveyance.

Our Customer Contact Center can answer any questions you have concerning Georgia driver's licenses, directions, and hours of operation for each Customer Service Center. To reach our Customer Contact Center, please call (678) 413-8400 or outside metro Atlanta, toll free at (866) 754-3687, Monday through Friday from 7:00 AM until 5:15 PM.

**Georgia Department Driver Services
Post Office Box 80447
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