



BC Forest Safety

Professional Log Truck Driver

Assessment Process



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This document is intended to prepare drivers scheduled for Professional Log Truck Driver Endorsement for the assessment process. Further information about the Professional Log Truck Driver Program is available at <https://www.bcforestsafe.org/professional-industry-driver-training-program/>.

The Assessment Process - What to Expect

A Request for Assessment form includes contact information for each assessment. The assessor will communicate with the field contact person assigned for assessment (based on information provided from the Request for Assessment Form) to arrange a scheduled time to complete the assessment.

The following is the preferred process for completing the Professional Log Truck Driver Assessment however, the assessor will work to accommodate the schedule of the driver.

1. The competency conversation: An informal conversation between the driver and the assessor that evaluates the required industry knowledge using questions developed by industry to ensure a consistent and non-biased assessment of each driver. The estimated time for the competency conversation is 1 – 3 hours and can occur at a location agreed upon by the driver and the Assessor but must NOT occur when driving.
2. The practical assessment: This generally occurs following the competency conversation and includes the pre-trip and a 'ride-along' for one full-haul cycle. The assessor will observe the driver's operation of the vehicle and their related safe work procedures including operating on resource roads, loading at an active harvesting location and unloading at the mill or log dump location. A minimum of 15kms of operation on resource roads both loaded and empty is recommended.

Alternative processes may include:

- Completion of the practical assessment prior to the competency conversation.
- Completion of the competency conversation via telephone.

A quality control process is completed on each assessment. Therefore, the assessor cannot communicate the driver's assessment results at the time of assessment.

Once quality control is completed, assessment results and the competency conversation and practical assessment summary are mailed to the driver. If the driver successfully meets the assessment outcomes, the BCFSC Training Department will also mail a Professional Log Truck Driver Endorsement Card and Certificate of Endorsement.

If there are identified areas where a candidate is not yet competent, a gap training plan will be created which may include referencing learning resources or working with a mentor to further develop skills. Once the gap training plan is completed by the candidate, they can be reassessed in the identified areas where the outcome was not achieved.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: How are assessors selected and what qualifications are needed to assess a driver?

A: To ensure the credibility and value of the Professional Log Truck Driver Program, assessors are selected based on a series of criteria ensuring each individual is qualified to make a comprehensive assessment of the log truck operator. In addition to other criteria, assessors must be occupationally competent with:

- a minimum 10 years log hauling experience in British Columbia
- meeting the outcomes of the Professional Log Truck Driver Program
- meeting the outcomes of the Assessor program

Q: I have been operating a log truck for 30 years, why am I being assessed?

A: One of the objectives of the Professional Log Truck Driver Program is to recognize drivers who meet the standards developed by industry by providing the Professional Log Truck Driver Endorsement.

Q: Do I have to assess my drivers under WorkSafe BC requirements?

A: The regulation requires that an employer must train workers and all workers must be competent. The Professional Log Truck Driver Endorsement is an industry-recognized program that fulfils this requirement but is not the only method to assess drivers.

Q: What about new drivers, shouldn't we be focusing on making sure they are competent?

A: The BC Forest Safety Council is collaborating with public, private and industry training facilities to provide resources including online theory and mentoring programs. These resources support industry-recognized training including the assessment of students who have completed training.

Q: Why is BCFSC focusing on assessing drivers when there are so many other things that should be done to prevent injuries and fatalities?

A: The Professional Log Truck Driver Program is one of several key initiatives currently in progress. Other initiatives include resource road safety, road maintenance, load securement, and fatigue. Information on these initiatives can be found on the [BCFSC website](#).

Q: What do I need to do to become an assessor or a mentor for the Professional Log Truck Driver Program?

A: Additional information about the Professional Log Truck Driver Program is available on the [BCFSC website](#). If you have additional questions, contact the Transportation Department at transport.admin@bcforestsafe.org.