





GOVERNMENT FUNDING REQUIRES ELIGIBILITY

The majority of students that take driver training programs here on Prince Edward Island are doing so through government funded programming. The most common program is called TrainingPEI and is a program offered through SkillsPEI.

In order to access this program, students must first meet Employment Insurance eligibility. Once eligibility is determined, a student must then work with career counsellor to develop their return to work action plan.



STUDENT FINANCED STUDENT LOAN / LINE OF CREDIT

This is becoming an increasingly popular way for individuals to attend training, especially for those that are not eligible for government programming. It's no secret that the PEI trucking industry pays its drivers well, especially our long haul drivers. Most US Long haul drivers will earn close to \$60,000 in their first year alone; therefore taking out a loan to cover the cost of training is not a bad financial decision. You could easily pay back the cost of training in one year assuming you are gaining a higher paid position.



Though training paid for by a student's own cash contribution may be the least likely option for most, it is certainly the easiest and fastest way to attend training. As a result of the ease to training, we are seeing more and more students save their funds to cover their own training costs. This will allow them to get around program eligibility as well as some other requirements that funded training won't allow (Issues with driving records or criminal backgrounds). Keep in mind, students should always speak with an employer before training.

EMPLOYER FUNDED CASH CONTRIBUTION

The PEI trucking industry has numerous employers that work with students to assist them in obtaining training. This is usually achieved by employer either reimbursing the cost of training (usually over a 2 year period), or by accessing other government programs that can help offset the training cost. This would include wage subsidies and actual funds for training. Companies are more likely to do this for people they are familiar with such as current staff, or friends and family of staff.





