

Retired as a United States Postmaster I recently enrolled at a driving school to secure a CDL and begin a second career. Although I consider myself an excellent driver having 37 years of accident free driving, I believe a graduated CDL for all drivers is of paramount importance if the FMCSA wishes to promote safety seriously.

The college I am attending provides excellent training in a six month course requiring an externship for graduation. I believe the time with a company trainer is invaluable provided the trainer is qualified. I do not believe a trainer is qualified with less than two years of accident free over the road driving experience. Therefore the graduated CDL should be conditional for two years, and require a yearly exam of knowledge of regulations, examination of driver's log books, and safety performance.

The nation can ill afford to neglect the safety aspect of driver performance. The FMCSA should demand excellence of all drivers and of the companies which employ them.