

# MICHIGAN CENTER FOR TRUCK SAFETY



Hitting a home run for safety

## **What is the Michigan Center for Truck Safety?**

The Center is a grant-funded organization dedicated to highway safety through safer truck travel. The Center accomplishes this by educating both truck and car drivers on how to safely share the road.

## **What does the Center charge for its services?**

At present, the majority of the Center's programs are free. Both of the decision driving programs have a minimal charge. However, the Center reserves the right to add or change fees at any time.

## **When does the Center hold these courses?**

Many of our courses may be tailored to fit your schedule. Call us at (800) 682-4682 or (800) 469-7364 in the Upper Peninsula to see what we can do to meet your scheduling needs.

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## Home Run for Safety Award

For companies, owner-operators and individual drivers who complete the Center's core safety courses, you and/or your team may earn the Center's Home Run for Safety Award. This award signifies that you have made the extra commitment to help everyone share the road while staying ahead of the game and increasing your profits.



The core courses required to be completed for the Home Run for Safety award are:

- The Safety Management program (companies only)
- Professional Driver Coaching
- The National Safety Council's Defensive Driving Course for the Professional Truck Driver
- One of our Decision Driving Courses (or skid pads)
- Fatigue Management Program



# Safety Management Program

Center staff can help you with your company safety plan either through free seminars held around the state or through one-on-one visits to your office.

Our management specialists can come on-site—whether you have a large fleet or only operate one truck—to answer your questions, examine your records, evaluate your compliance needs and prepare you for safety audits.



The Center has accredited certified directors of safety from the North American Transportation Management Institute who can help you put your overall game plan in place.

# Professional Driver Coaching

For professional driver coaching, company or individual drivers will receive one-on-one attention on the road with a trained observer to enhance and encourage positive driving behaviors. There is no charge.

Developed by Michigan State University, professional driver coaching is performed on specific routes which include rural, highway and city driving. The Center has

a number of these routes established in both the Upper and Lower Peninsulas.

At the conclusion of the session, a final evaluation is shared verbally with the drivers, giving them positive reinforcement for their good driving behaviors, as well as constructive feedback on opportunities to reduce the likelihood of collisions. A written report is then sent to the company.

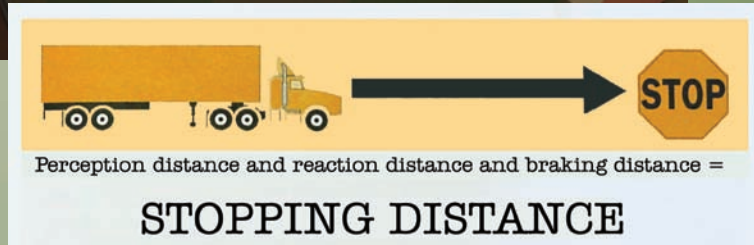


# Defensive Driving Course

The Center's four-hour classroom version of the National Safety Council's Defensive Driving Course for the Professional Truck Driver covers various strategies for:

- Turns
- Space management
- Following distance
- Lane management
- Entrance and exit ramps
- Avoiding head-on collisions
- Adjusting to driving conditions

There is no charge for the defensive driving course. Attendees receive a certificate of completion from the National Safety Council.



# Decision Driving Courses

At both the Michigan Center for Decision Driving (MCDD) and the Upper Peninsula Decision Driving Course (UPDDC), drivers are taught to identify potential crash situations and develop essential decision-making and driving skills to respond appropriately and avoid involvement. Drivers get hands-on training in:

- Braking techniques
- Evasive maneuvers
- Steering techniques
- Skid control
- Jackknife control and recovery



MCDD is at the Eaton Proving Grounds in Marshall, Michigan. UPDDC is in Escanaba with evening hours available. There is a nominal fee for both skid pads. For MCDD, call **(800) 325-6733**. For UPDDC, call **(800) 469-7364**.



## Fatigue Management

The Fatigue Management program is available either on-line or in a classroom setting. With this free course, drivers learn:

- How to identify fatigue
- How to reduce it
- The family's role in ensuring that drivers get enough sleep
- The signs and effects of sleep disorders



To find the Fatigue Management program on-line, go to [www.truckingsafety.org](http://www.truckingsafety.org). Look for the Fatigue button on the top of the home page. Once logged on, participants can sign on and off as many times as needed.

Michigan residents who complete the program will receive certificates of participation. For the classroom presentation, contact one of the Center's offices.

# Mobile Truck Safety Simulator



This state-of-the art Mobile Truck Safety Simulator, housed in a 42-foot gooseneck trailer, includes:

- Automatic, 9, 10 and 13 speed transmissions
- Various tractor-trailer combinations including vans, tankers and flatbeds and straight trucks including dump trucks and snowplows

Areas on which the simulator training will focus (but not limited to) include:

- Circles of influence (search performance/hazardous perception)
- Speed management and control
- Space management (direction control, including merging and maneuvering)
- Backing and turning
- Adverse driving conditions
- Fuel management (proper shifting techniques and recommended torque ranges)

Scoring and data collection will be based on violations of speed, space, lane integrity and the use of gears, the clutch use (float gears), brakes, safety belts and fuel management.

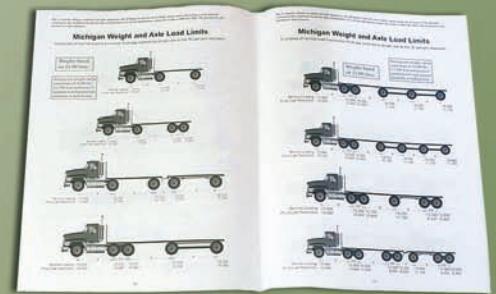
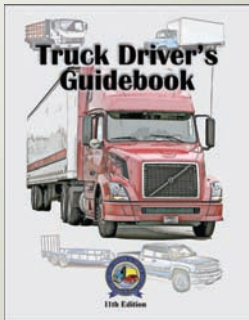


# Truck Driver's Guidebook

A free publication, the Center produces the Truck Driver's Guidebook, a summary of the federal and state rules and regulations.

The guidebook gives you a general overview of the following topics:

- Vehicle Registration & Fuel Tax
- Michigan Commercial Driver License
- Driver Qualifications
- Drug and Alcohol Testing
- Hours of Service
- Load Securement
- Vehicle and Load Size
- Michigan Weight and Axle Load Limits
- Bridge Gross Vehicle Weight Formula



The guidebook also includes useful telephone numbers, Web sites and general information, and can be downloaded from our Web site at [www.truckingsafety.org](http://www.truckingsafety.org).

## Safety Videos and Brochures



The Center has videos and brochures available for downloading for Michigan and out-of-state companies and individuals. Copies of the following materials may be downloaded by going to our Web site at [www.truckingsafety.org](http://www.truckingsafety.org) and clicking on the Download button at the top:

- Hitting a Home Run for Safety: An Overview of MCTS Programs
- Vehicle Inspection: Straight Truck (Hydraulic Brakes)
- Highway Safety Begins and Ends with a Proper Vehicle Inspection (Tractor-Trailers)
- Sharing the Road: Driving Safely Around Trucks (seniors and adults)
- Senior video booklets
- Sharing the Road: Driving Around Big Trucks (high school driver education)

## Truck Safety Hotline

Have compliance questions? If so, call the Center at **(800) 682-4682**.



The Truck Safety Hotline is designed to help with your safety and compliance questions. Trained staff can assist you with the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Regulations, the Michigan Motor Carrier Safety Act and the Michigan Vehicle Code.

In the Upper Peninsula, call **(800) 469-7364**.

## Find Us on the Web

You can learn more about our services, register for courses, look up the Truck Driver's Guidebook and get answers to frequently asked questions on our Web site at **[www.truckingsafety.org](http://www.truckingsafety.org)**. You can also e-mail your questions and comments to **[info@truckingsafety.org](mailto:info@truckingsafety.org)** or **[upinfo@truckingsafety.org](mailto:upinfo@truckingsafety.org)** for the Upper Peninsula Office.





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