

## State Planning and Research Program Quarterly Report

**PROJECT TITLE:** *Entry-Level Driver Training (CDL) for Maintenance Equipment Operators*

**OBJECTIVES:** The project has the following two objectives: 1) develop entry-level commercial driver license training materials and resources that complies with federal regulations, and 2) develop and document a process for member agencies to join the Training Provider Registry.

**PERIOD COVERED:** October 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020

**PARTICIPATING AGENCIES:** Minnesota Department of Transportation and the Clear Roads Technical Advisory Committee

**PROJECT MANAGER:**  
Debbie Sinclair / Tom Peters

**SP&R PROJECT NO:**  
MnDOT Contract No.  
1044526

**PROJECT IS:**

Planning  
 Research & Development

**LEAD AGENCY:** MnDOT

Federal Project Number:  
TPF-5(353)

**PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR:**  
Matt Camden, Virginia Tech

**ANNUAL BUDGET:** \$199,986 (total project budget)

**PROJECT EXPENDITURES TO DATE:** \$13,969.49

### WORK COMPLETED:

- **Task 1: Review ELDT Regulation/FMCSA Requirements and Kickoff Webinar.** VTTI reviewed the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's entry-level driver training (ELDT) requirements to ensure our understanding was accurate. Additionally, VTTI conducted a kickoff webinar with the Clear Roads project subcommittee on December 14, 2020. The purpose of this meeting was to review the workplan and address key questions about the ELDT.
- **Task 2: Literature Review and Survey of Clear Roads States.** VTTI began reviewing literature to identify relevant sources related to CDL training. This review will focus on identifying existing ELDT training materials and guidance on how to implement the ELDT rule. Additionally, VTTI developed and submitted the draft survey to be sent to Clear Roads states. The team revised the survey based on feedback and resubmitted it to the project subcommittee on December 30, 2020.
- **Task 3: Document a Process for Joining the Training Provider Registry (TPR) and Maintaining Compliance.** VTTI began the guide to document the process required by FMCSA to be compliant with the ELDT. The resulting document will identify the key steps and associated timeline that states can implement to ensure all training locations are added to the TPR prior to February 7, 2022.

### SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES EXPECTED TO BE PERFORMED NEXT QUARTER:

- **Task 2: Literature Review and Survey of Clear Roads States.** VTTI will complete the draft and final Task 2 deliverable.
- **Task 3: Document a Process for Joining the Training Provider Registry (TPR) and Maintaining Compliance.** VTTI will complete the draft and final Task 3 deliverable.
- **Task 4: Interviews of Clear Roads Agencies.** Based on data gathered in the Task 2 survey, VTTI will identify 1-3 Clear Roads states that have developed or have begun developing their own training curricula, materials, and processes to comply with the ELDT final rule. After approval from the project subcommittee, VTTI will conduct interviews at the selected agencies. These interviews will focus on gathering data on lessons learned when developing training curricula and materials to maintain compliance with the ELDT rule.
- **Task 5: Fact Sheet and Webinar on Compliance Process** In Task 5, VTTI will synthesize the findings from Tasks 1 to 4 in an easy-to-understand fact sheet that outlines the steps and timeline for state DOTs to comply with the final ELDT rule. In addition to the fact sheet, the VTTI team will conduct a webinar for Clear Roads member states to briefly discuss the training materials being developed, key considerations, steps, and timeline associated with the ELDT regulation.

**STATUS AND COMPLETION DATE:**

This project is ongoing and is scheduled to end on September 30, 2020.