

Truck Driver Job Description

A truck driver operates heavy vehicles to transport goods over short or long distances. They are responsible for loading and unloading cargo, navigating routes safely, keeping accurate logs, and performing essential vehicle maintenance to meet strict industry and traffic regulations.

Key Responsibilities

- **Transport:** Safely operate heavy vehicles to deliver goods to depots, warehouses, or customer sites on schedule.
- **Loading & Securing:** Load and unload cargo manually or using equipment, ensuring all items are safely stowed and secured to prevent damage.
- **Compliance & Paperwork:** Keep accurate, up-to-date logbooks, delivery dockets, and tachograph records, and adhere to all traffic laws and driver licensing regulations.
- **Vehicle Maintenance:** Conduct thorough pre-trip and post-trip inspections, clean the vehicle, and report any mechanical issues to dispatch or maintenance staff.
- **Communication:** Coordinate with dispatchers, warehouse staff, and clients, updating them on delivery status, delays, or route changes.

Essential Requirements

- **Valid Driver's License:** A clean, appropriate Commercial Driver's License (CDL) or heavy vehicle license corresponding to the truck class (e.g., Class 1 through 5 in New Zealand).
- **Physical Fitness:** Ability to sit for long periods and frequently lift, push, or pull heavy freight.
- **Navigation Skills:** Ability to use GPS and route-planning tools, taking into account traffic, weather, and vehicle dimensions.
- **Safety & Hazard Awareness:** Understanding of road safety protocols, defensive driving, and how to handle hazardous materials or liquid physics where applicable.

Standard Qualifications & Experience

- Relevant industry experience and a clean driving record.
- Specialized certifications (e.g., Dangerous Goods/Hazmat, Forklift, or Tanker endorsements).
- Ability to pass background checks, medical evaluations, and drug screenings.