

Training Centres

The training centres taking part in the initial qualification and periodic training must be approved by the Member States' competent authorities. Approval must be given only in response to a written application. Annex I section 5 of the directive listed the documents which must support the application and the conditions under which the competent authority must give approval.

FAQ

Does the directive require training centres to be independent from the driver's employer? May, for example, a company employing drivers be approved as a training centre and thus organise training for its own drivers?

There is no specific requirement on this issue in the directive. A company employing drivers may organise training subject to the condition that it has been approved by the competent authorities of the Member State in which the training is provided and as long as it meets the course requirements which are set up in the directive.

In some Member States, i.e. France and Sweden, companies and private training centres provide training to professional drivers under contracts signed with the government.

Does the directive allow for a trainee driver to follow different parts of the training programme at several approved training centres?

The directive does not prevent trainee drivers from taking different parts of their training at different approved training centres. However, it may be difficult to coordinate and combine different parts from different programmes.

Can Member States' competent authorities confer approval upon training centres only covering a limited proportion of the subjects listed in Annex 1, section 1 - or does a training centre need to cover all subjects listed to receive approval?

The directive does not prohibit approvals of training centres only covering a limited proportion of the subjects listed in Annex 1. However, for consistency and efficiency purposes, approvals of training centres covering all subjects are recommended.

This document reflects the understanding of the Commissions Services and does not represent any formal commitment on behalf of the Commission