

# **Get a License to Earn.** Consider a career as a driver or heat tech.



**Vermont's Energy Companies are Hiring!**

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For a complete list of training seminars and job opportunities contact the Vermont Fuel Dealers Association.

**VFDA**  
*vermontfuel.com*

**802-223-7750**  
**info@vermontfuel.com**

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## **Becoming a Deliver Driver**

### ***Step One. Getting a CDL***

You must have a valid Commercial Driver License (CDL) to drive a commercial motor vehicle, which is a vehicle with a gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) in excess of 26,000 pounds. A Vermont commercial driver instructional (learner) permit allows a person to receive commercial driving instruction and behind-the-wheel driving experience on public highways. While driving on the road, the holder of a commercial driver learner's permit must be accompanied by a person who holds a valid CDL issued for the class of vehicle driven, including any endorsements.

VFDA can help you get your CDL Learner's Permit and place you with a company for a behind-the-wheel driving experience.

***Contact VFDA to get started on getting your CDL or go to [vermontfuel.com/training](http://vermontfuel.com/training).***

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## **Heat Tech Training**

### **Step one. Get Certified.**

VFDA offers training seminars for those considering a career as a gas or oilheat tech. Once you obtain your Vermont Oilheat or Propane certification, VFDA will work with students to find a job with an energy service company.

***Contact VFDA to enroll in one of our training programs or go to [vermontfuel.com/training](http://vermontfuel.com/training).***

**The Vermont Heating Fuel and Service Workforce Training Program** is a collaborative effort with VFDA, the Vermont Department of Labor and the Vermont Agency of Commerce. According to an economic study by the University of Vermont Center of Rural Studies, two-thirds of Vermont companies say there is a lack of skilled applicants for propane and oilheat technician jobs. The study also determined that jobs in the heating fuel industry average \$23 an hour, with health insurance and paid time off. The collaborative effort intends to enroll unemployed Vermonters in propane and oilheat certification programs and make connections between unemployed Vermonters and heating companies.

### **The Heating Fuel and Service Workforce Training Program**

Signed into law by Governor Phil Scott in 2017, the Heating Fuel and Service Workforce Training Program is designed to identify individuals who need work, get them trained, and place them with heating fuel and service companies. The program is a collaboration between the Vermont Fuel Dealers Association (VFDA), the Vermont Department of Labor, the Agency of Commerce and Community Development, and more than a dozen Technical Training Centers in Vermont. Thanks to this program, there are several opportunities listed below that are available for heating fuel and service companies.

### **Workforce Investment and Opportunity Assistance (WIOA)**

As a result of this law, VFDA's Oilheat and Propane Certification Programs are now on the *Vermont Eligible Training Provider* list for [WorkforceInnovation and Opportunity Act](#) (WIOA) tuition dollars. This federal funding is available to train dislocated workers, young people (up to 24) and adults that meet certain income eligibility.

#### *Applying for Workforce Investment and Opportunity Assistance (WIOA)*

- Individuals should be instructed to contact their local American Jobs Center to set up a meeting with a Case Manager. More information can be found at <http://www.careeronestop.org/>
- If an individual inquires about the program, he or she can set up a meeting with a Case Manager to start the assessment process.
- During the meeting at the AJC (these meetings can last an hour), the individual will engage in a conversation with the case manager who will ask a series of questions that will help determine their eligibility for WIOA assistance and their interest in the program.

### **Vermont Student Assistance Corp.**

VFDA's Oilheat and Propane Certification Programs have qualified as a reimbursable Non-Degree Grant funding through the [Vermont Student Assistance Corp.](#) (VSAC). These can be used to reimburse young adults and unemployed individuals for tuition.

### **Vermont Training Program**

Heating fuel and service companies that train incumbent employees in VFDA's Oilheat and Propane Certification Programs will be reimbursed for tuition expenses through ACCD's [Vermont Training Program](#) (VTP). These state grants provide up to 50% of the training costs, paid out to employers on a reimbursement basis upon completion of employee training.

### **Veterans**

Many military veterans have skills that transfer well to the heating industry, whether it is driving delivery trucks or working with heating equipment. The federal [Work Opportunity Tax Credit](#) (WOTC) and the Returning Heroes Tax Credit provides incentives of up to \$5,600 for hiring unemployed veterans and the Wounded Warriors Tax Credit doubles the existing Work Opportunity Tax Credit for long-term unemployed veterans with service-connected disabilities, to up to \$9,600. VFDA will reach out to local veterans groups and member companies to connect those veterans that need work with companies that need to hire.

In addition there is a program called Vets2Techs which works across the region to find veterans and place them with heating fuel and service companies. More information on that can be found at [vets2techs.com](http://vets2techs.com)