Job Description

Trainee Driver

Job Title:	Trainee Driver
Location:	Halstead
Employment type:	Permanent
Contract type:	Salaried / Full time
Weekly Hours:	40
Line Manager:	Operations Manager
Closing Date:	-
Salary / Wages:	£12.71 per hour
Legal Entity of Employer:	Konectbus Limited

Job Purpose

We are recruiting enthusiastic Trainee Bus Drivers to become part of the Transport Made Simple Group's professional driving team. You will complete a comprehensive PCV driver training programme, supported by experienced coaches, leading to your full PCV Licence and a guaranteed position as a Bus Driver. This is an excellent opportunity to launch a rewarding career in public transport with a company that invests in developing its people.

About Us

The Transport Made Simple Group is a technology-enabled transport solution provider. We operate one of the largest independently owned fleets of buses and coaches in the UK, and our mission is to deliver reliable, sustainable public transport, which meets the needs of the communities we serve. We do this by being a great place to work, whilst also being customer centric, cost disciplined and revenue driven. Everything we do is underpinned by our four values of Growth, Excellence, Integrity and Efficiency, which guide our day-to-day operations and longer-term decision-making.

We're a team of 800 colleagues, with a fleet of 400 buses, coaches and minibuses, and we operate from a strategic network of depots across East Anglia, the Midlands and Greater London.

Our Central Connect local bus network has an annual ridership of more than 10 million passengers, delivered in partnership with sixteen Local Transport Authorities. Alongside running local bus services, we provide home-to-school, rail replacement and Demand Responsive Transport services, operate corporate and event shuttle buses and run our own programme of holidays and day trips. We also hire

out our buses and coaches to a range of clients, from schools, colleges and local businesses to major names in the travel and tourism industry, such as Leger Holidays, Flixbus and PGL.

Our solutions go beyond moving people - we also support commercial fleet operators across East Anglia with reactive and pre-planned maintenance solutions from our accredited workshops, offering heavy and light vehicle MOTs, bodywork repairs and resprays, heavy recovery and breakdown response, including 24/7/365 roadside tyre assistance provided by sister company Lion Tyres Essex. We also deliver facilities management services on behalf of Norfolk County Council, undertake sundry tasks such as maintaining bus stops on behalf of a range of local authorities, and operate two cafes and travel information hubs in Norwich and Colchester under the Cafe Connect brand.

Main Duties of the Role

- Complete the full PCV driver training programme under the guidance of experienced driver coaches
- Attend and pass all required medical examinations and practical tests
- Obtain your provisional Category D entitlement and Enhanced DBS Certificate with our support
- Develop safe and professional driving skills meeting PCV standards
- Learn customer service excellence and health and safety procedures
- Progress to full-time or part-time Bus Driver role upon successful completion and PCV Licence acquisition

Why Join Us?

- Guaranteed 40 hours paid per week during your Monday to Friday training period at £12.71 per hour
- Earn our full rate (varies by depot, up to £15.06 per hour) once you have completed your training
- Full support from application through to employment, including medical booking, licence application assistance and in-house practical training
- Access to a range of full and part-time positions including local bus services and school contracts once qualified
- Mentoring from experienced professional drivers throughout your training journey
- Free travel across the Central Connect bus network and other participating local bus operators
- Discounted day trips, holidays, coach hire and garage services / MOTs
- Free on-site parking
- Free tea and coffee
- Free uniform

Person Specification

- Full clean UK driving licence held for a minimum of 6 months
- Genuine passion for delivering excellent customer service

- Positive, flexible and friendly attitude with the ability to work as part of a team
- Ability to meet medical and fitness standards required for PCV driving
- Commitment to completing the full training programme and obtaining your PCV Licence
- Polite, professional and genuinely customer focused
- Calm and logical under pressure, with strong attention to detail
- Confident using Microsoft Office and Google Workspace
- Comfortable working with digital systems and online platforms
- Able to communicate clearly in writing and by telephone
- Organised and capable of managing both reactive and planned work

Desirable but not essential

- Previous experience in customer-facing or public-facing roles
- Knowledge of local routes or familiarity with the local area
- Experience of working with diverse groups of people

Important Legal Information

Transport Made Simple is an equal opportunities employer. We are committed to creating a diverse and inclusive workplace where everyone is treated with dignity and respect. We welcome applications from all suitably qualified individuals regardless of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, or sexual orientation. Selection for employment will be based on merit, skills and experience.

In accordance with the Equality Act 2010, reasonable adjustments will be made for candidates with disabilities during the recruitment process and, where applicable, throughout employment. Please let us know if you require any adjustments at any stage.

All offers of employment are subject to satisfactory pre-employment checks. These may include verification of identity, right to work in the United Kingdom, employment references and, where appropriate to the role, Disclosure and Barring Service checks.

Transport Made Simple processes personal data in line with UK data protection legislation, including the UK General Data Protection Regulation and the Data Protection Act 2018. Information provided during the recruitment process will be used solely for recruitment purposes and handled in accordance with our Privacy Notice.

We reserve the right to close this vacancy early should sufficient applications be received.
The legal entity of the employer in respect of this role is Konectbus Limited.