



Trainee Driver Programme

**Developing our own
industry leading drivers**

About Nationwide Platforms

Nationwide Platforms is the market-leading powered access rental company in the UK, providing a fleet of more than 13,000 machines from a network of 30 depots across the country. It also has the largest powered access training department in Europe, delivering a comprehensive range of working at height training courses to powered access operators and the access industry.

Nationwide Platforms is part of Loxam Powered Access Division, the largest equipment rental company in Europe.



Adam Revell
Head of Technical Training

“Working at height has the potential to be very dangerous so at Nationwide Platforms we aim to reduce that risk by hiring machines to customers to make this as safe as possible. Drivers are a critical component in the supply chain to our customers and help ensure the success of Nationwide Platforms by delivering machines all over the country. Their knowledge of a huge range of machines enables a smooth handover to customers for safe ongoing use and are very often the face of our company to many customers.”



Invest

We invest in our employees career



Team

We work as a team to make the job easier



Tools

We give you the right tools to do the job



Your Safety, Our Priority

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Driving at Nationwide Platforms

As a business we exist only to serve customers – and to do it in a profitable way. Our Drivers have a clear and distinctly important role within this process, to be the final link in the supply chain and deliver & collect our equipment, dealing most often with the end user.

By having requisite knowledge of all our machines, drivers play a massive role in helping customers get the best from the equipment they hire. What we do and how we do it is essential to the reputation of the business in the eyes of the customer – the quality of our customer service as drivers therefore helps us win and retain business.

Our drivers always work with a high degree of awareness to Health & Safety and company policies in everything they do whilst providing excellent customer service. This includes the actual driving of the truck, how a machine is loaded and unloaded from the truck, how well a machine is secured to the truck bed and how & where a truck is parked for machine deliveries & collections.

It goes without saying that the more often our equipment is available for hire in peak condition, the better it is for the long-term health of the business. If it is in the Workshop for too long because of damage sustained whilst in the process of transportation it is not available for hire and that is not good for the business. Through the quality of a driver's work, including attitude and behaviour, there is a direct impact on customers when they take delivery and start using the kit. As 'Drivers', there is a minimum expectation that we provide a service and that we are competent in the processes we perform.



Therefore, drivers need to have a broad & deep knowledge about how to work and operate our equipment range, how to load & unload machines onto a truck whilst using the correct fixing chains at the correct points to secure them as well as obviously driving a large vehicle at the level expected of a professional driver.

It is because of this need that we actively recruit and produce our own class leading drivers through a high-quality training Programme. By providing the training we do, along with an experienced buddy, we ensure our Trainees become the drivers 5 we need them to be.

Our Programme



Who should apply to be a Trainee Driver with Nationwide Platform?

Drivers need to work in a collaborative environment, providing excellent customer service and working with a high degree of awareness to Health & Safety. This includes driving, machine loading/unloading, machine security and deliveries. We consider anyone who believes they meet this brief and has the aptitude to thrive in this uniquely challenging role. Communication skills and a head for heights are important too.

What are the entry requirements?

Minimum age of 19, having held a clean and full UK Driving licence for a minimum of 2 years and have no existing medical condition that would exclude "heavy goods vehicle" licence application. Other than this we are looking for the right attitude to succeed with a recommendation for four GCSE's at grade 5 (D) or higher.

Our trainee driver programme is a full year plan designed to implement fundamental knowledge, teach required skills & competencies, provide HGV driving experience and offer further opportunities. Trainees are assigned a full-time buddy to work with through the programme length to gain experience whilst regularly attending training sessions at the National Logistics Academy.

During the training you will be away for a maximum of two nights and two days at any time, on site at the college with accommodation & evening meals provided at a hotel close to by. Training delivery involves a blend of classroom-based activity and in-cab practical training that is the perfect generic knowledge for an LGV driver.

The Programme supports individuals through licence acquisition to become a professional driver so you may be driving a truck for us independently as soon as 6 months after joining. It will provide a recognised qualification and when delivered in tandem with internal training will ensure they are well prepared for our specific challenges.

Our internal training away from the college course will see us invest heavily in your progression providing recognised industry qualifications (IPAF and FORS) & job shadowing. Before the end of the training your follow up job role will be confirmed as you become a qualified, full time "Delivery Driver" within your depot.

Intake information

Step 1

Application window opens month 1

Apply online

Step 2

Attend Interview & Assessment day – Month 2

Step 3

If successful join Company – Month 3

Step 4

Start College to begin journey of qualification towards HGV Driver – Month 4

Step 5

Complete license acquisition and begin driving independently - Month 9

Step 6

Complete qualification to become qualified HGV Driver - Month 15

FAQ's

Who should apply to be a Trainee Driver with Nationwide Platforms?

We consider anyone who believes they would succeed and has the aptitude to thrive in this uniquely challenging role and meets the entry requirements of: Minimum age of 19, having held a clean and full UK Driving licence for a minimum of 2 years, living in close proximity to the base depot, eligible to work in the UK and importantly have no existing medical condition that would exclude "heavy goods vehicle" licence application. Communication skills and a head for heights are important too.

How is the programme structured?

Our trainee driver programme is a full year plan designed to implement fundamental knowledge, teach required skills & competencies, provide HGV driving experience and offer industry recognised qualifications. During the training, a maximum of two days concurrently, course delivery involves a blend of classroom-based activity and in-cab practical training that is taught by experienced professional drivers, working with great training aids.

Where does the training take place and what is provided whilst I am away?

All our training takes place at Mantra College, located on the outskirts of Manchester. Whilst there all meals will be provided and accommodation will be within hotels close by.

What is covered during the training?

The training is carefully designed at a national level to aid the journey to a qualified driver! It is covered within Masterclasses around subjects such as safe & efficient driving, Driving hours & Tachographs, customer service, and safe loading skills.

What qualifications will I gain?

You will be recognised as having completed an LGV Driver Apprenticeship Standard which will involve having acquired a Cat C driving license. In addition you will complete the required FORS training and will have the required IPAF licenses for operating machines as well as loading and unloading them onto the trucks.

What are the costs to me during my training?

None! We will invest all the time and money required to deliver this training and help you become a qualified driver. In addition you will be paid by us whilst you learn with regular pay reviews to reward you as you gain qualifications.

What is a MEWP?

MEWP is an acronym for “**M**obile **E**levating **W**ork **P**latforms” or “a mechanical device used to provide temporary access for people or equipment to inaccessible areas, usually at height”. Essentially this is the equipment which we hire, sometimes known as either a scissor lift, a boom lift or a cherry picker.

Who are IPAF?

IPAF (International **P**owered **A**ccess **F**ederation) is an international federation that promotes the safe and effective use of powered access equipment worldwide. The IPAF course within the programme will teach you how to operate our equipment in a safe manner – think of it as a driving license for MEWP’s!

Who are FORS?

Fleet **O**perator **R**ecognition **S**cheme (FORS) is a voluntary accreditation scheme for fleet operators which aims to raise the level of quality within fleet operations, and to demonstrate which operators are achieving exemplary levels of best practice in safety, efficiency, and environmental protection.

What can I expect from my buddy?

Your buddy is there to help train and support during the early part of your journey. Initially this driver will be the person you will continuously work with and shadow as you gain knowledge of the fundamentals to the job and as you progress.

What happens at the end of the programme?

Before the end of the training your follow up job role will be confirmed as you become a qualified, full time “Delivery Driver” within your depot.

Safety at Nationwide Platforms

Nationwide Platforms recognise the importance of a safe working environment and will promote the best practice in the following:

- Comply with any and all approved codes of practice produced or promulgated by the Health and Safety Executive and/or the Health and Safety Commission
- Take all reasonable steps to encourage all engaged personnel have received comprehensive site-specific health and safety induction training and regular refresher training
- Category Provider to adhere to all site-specific health and safety requirements

“Nationwide Platforms provide a safe, modern workplace and strive to ensure an injury free environment. We take pride in personal safety as well as the safety of all of our colleagues around us.”



Simon Osborne
UK Head of QHSE

Benefits



Regular milestone pay reviews, ending in salary over £24k



25 days holiday



Healthcare, Pension, Life Assurance



Employee discounts across many different retail and leisure outfits



APPLY TODAY

To apply simply register your details today and send a CV and Covering letter to Recruitment@nationwideplatforms.co.uk, subject line reference Trainee Driver Application.

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