



# WHAT ARE YOU UP FOR?

## MY LIFE AS



### A CITY DRIVER: JARET HOLMES

Jaret Holmes left a job in an office-type setting with the hope of being more active and seeing different scenery every day. He started working at FedEx driving forklifts on the loading dock and soon discovered that the company could train him to drive tractor-trailers. Now, as a city driver with FedEx Freight, Jaret is responsible for picking up and delivering freight to commercial businesses in a number of Houston area neighborhoods.

More than 210,000 Greater Houston residents have careers in transportation and material moving, making it the fourth largest type of occupation in the region. Today’s vehicles are equipped with advanced technology, which Jaret says people don’t expect and makes them easier to drive and safer than they would seem.

Drivers like Jaret play an important role in Greater Houston’s economy. “Sometimes the customers are not able to [run] their businesses without the freight that I have on my trailer,” he said.

#### REQUIREMENTS:

Have a class A Commercial Driver License (CDL) with endorsements to transport hazardous materials, to drive tankers, and to drive two trailers (doubles) or three trailers (triples) at the same time; meet Department of Transportation (DOT) requirements; have an acceptable driving record

#### SALARY:

\$54,392 (Houston area average for the local general freight trucking industry)

#### CAREER PATH:

Many City Drivers start out as part-time freight handlers, move into full-time freight handler positions and then into the FedEx funded Driver Apprentice program. Graduates of the Driver Apprentice program typically assume a Driver position after 4-6 weeks of training.

#### ADVANCEMENT:

Some City Drivers choose to move into Road Driver positions, operations management, office roles, support-based positions or other roles within FedEx Freight or other FedEx companies.

#### TIPS FOR SUCCESS:

Jaret advised that being aware of one’s surroundings and environment can help a city driver be successful and safe. He said drivers should also maintain a safe speed and following distance.

#### KEY CAREER RESPONSIBILITIES:

Operate tractor-trailer combinations safely; perform daily pre-trip and safety inspections on equipment; handle freight using appropriate motorized and/or manual equipment, secure freight inside trailers using appropriate equipment; comply with hazardous material regulations and procedures; communicate effectively with dispatchers and customers; provide good customer service.