



WHAT ARE YOU UP FOR?

MY LIFE AS



A CITY DRIVER: MARY KELLDORF

Mary Kelldorf had been around trucks all her life but never considered driving one for a living. And then she tried it. "Once I got in the truck, I was hooked," she said. "It was like, 'I can do this.'"

Mary left work in a warehouse to be a city driver for FedEx Freight, delivering and picking up freight for business customers. More than 210,000 Greater Houston residents have a career in transportation and material moving, the fourth largest type of occupation in the region.

Mary enjoys interacting with her customers and the autonomy driving affords, as well as the high salary she earns. She wishes she had started her transportation career sooner and encourages others to give driving a try.

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 Apprenticeship program. Graduates of the Driver Apprenticeship 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:

Important skills for success include having a safety mindset, being aware of your surroundings, and having patience. Good communication and people skills are valuable, too.

"We meet new people every day. You build relationships with those customers," Mary said. "It turns from customers to friends."

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.