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WEEKLY NEWS & INFORMATION FROM THE CALIFORNIA TRUCKING ASSOCIATION



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## California Fee Changes for 2026: New Schedule Addresses Electric

The **State of California** has implemented changes to the current registration fee in accordance with the California Consumer Price Index and legislatively mandated changes.

**The fee change applies to all original, renewal, and supplement (vehicle adds) applications with a supplement effective date of January 1, 2026, and later.**

In addition, “electric” powered vehicles will now have a different fee schedule. This includes plug-in electric, plug-in hybrid electric, or battery electric.

- For vehicles with a motive power (**excluding** electric powered vehicles):
  - Vehicles with an unladen weight of 10,000 pounds or less is \$110.
  - Vehicles with a declared gross vehicle weight (GVW) or combined gross vehicle weight (CGW) of 10,001 pounds or more is \$132.
- For “electric” powered vehicles **only**:
  - Vehicles with an unladen weight of 5,999 pounds or less is \$197.
  - Vehicles with an unladen weight between 6,000-9,999 pounds is \$376.
  - Vehicles with an unladen weight 10,000 pounds or more is \$490.

Please click [HERE](#) to view the fee schedule.

If you have any questions regarding the information above, please contact **Suk Medeiros** at [Suk.Medeiros@dmv.ca.gov](mailto:Suk.Medeiros@dmv.ca.gov).

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## EPA Removes DEF Sensor Requirement

Last week the **U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)** announced it is removing the diesel exhaust fluid sensor requirement. EPA’s updated guidance provides additional flexibility on diesel exhaust fluid (DEF) quality monitoring and preventing forced shutdowns.

**American Trucking Associations (ATA) Vice President of Energy & Environmental Affairs Patrick Kelly** commented on the announcement:

"As we have previously said, these systems have too often sidelined otherwise safe, compliant trucks due to faulty or unreliable DEF quality sensors, an issue that was compounded by widespread parts shortages in recent years. When a bad sensor can trigger a full inducement, the result is unnecessary downtime, unnecessary towing costs, strained supply chains, and higher costs across the board."



In August, [the EPA announced](#) that it would ask engine manufacturers to update DEF software to avoid "deratements," which are incidents when an engine dramatically slows due to DEF supplies running out or other readings from the DEF sensor. It also will require engine manufacturers, beginning with the 2027 model year, to take engineering steps that would stop those deratements when the vehicle runs out of DEF.



## CTA's Chiappe Promoted to VP of Government Affairs

We're excited to announce the promotion of **Nick Chiappe** to **Vice President of Government Affairs** effective today.

Chiappe has been with CTA almost five years, joining the Association in May of 2021 as a Government Affairs Associate.

"Since joining CTA, Nick has demonstrated exceptional performance and a commitment to supporting the mission of the Association and our members. In his new role, Nick will continue to oversee the day to day responsibilities of the Government Affairs agenda and work in close coordination with our contract lobbyists." said CTA CEO Eric Sauer in a memo to CTA staff on Tuesday.

## TDC26: SoCal Registration Closes Friday

There's just a few days left to register for **CTA's California Truck Driving Championships** at **Santa Anita Park in Arcadia, on April 25 - the deadline is this Friday, April 3.**

We are on target for our largest pool of competitors ever in this southern California event. Be part of it all and visit the [registration page](#) to submit your details now!

We're also looking for volunteers to help us staff both the weekends, so if you're interested in some fun in the sun, a snazzy t-shirt, and the undying appreciation of an entire region of truck drivers, click on one of the links below to sign up.



[Volunteer at TDC North](#)

[Volunteer at TDC South](#)

## Join CTA on Capitol Hill for Call on Washington - May 12 & 13

Next month CTA staff and Board members will be travelling to our nation's capitol for our Call on Washington to meet with California's elected lawmakers and staff. We have just handful of spots for our members we'd like offer up.

This is a great opportunity to learn and understand the broader issues our industry faces, speak with your elected representatives and their staffs, and network with other like-minded CTA members and leaders.

**Our visit is scheduled for Tuesday, May 12 and Wednesday, May 13**, with a full agenda including a reception and pre-meeting briefings at the ATA HQ, and a busy day visiting lawmakers' offices on Capitol Hill.



If you are interested, please email Nick Chiappe at [NChiappe@caltrux.org](mailto:NChiappe@caltrux.org), or click on the button below for more information.

[More Information](#)



## Summer Board & Policy Meetings

Join us in Fontana on **Wednesday, June 17 & Thursday, June 18** to join our Board and staff for the **CTA Summer Board of Directors & Policy Committee Meetings**.

Meetings open to all members will begin Wednesday, June 17 at 1:30.

### Wednesday Agenda

- 10:30am CEO Advisory - Private
- 11:30am Officer's Council - Private
- 01:30pm Environmental Policy Committee
- 03:00pm Allied Conference Meeting
- 03:30pm - 5:30pm Allied Conference Happy Hour Event - Location TBD

### Thursday Agenda

- 9:00am Highway Policy Committee
- 10:15am Safety, Security, and Human Resources Policy Committee
- Noon Grab n Go Lunch
- 12:30pm - 2:30pm Board of Directors Meeting

**TEC Equipment**  
**14400 Randall Ave**  
**Fontana**

[Register Now](#)

# EQUIPMENT LOANS



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or (501) 690-9393



## Driven to be the best!

Join us in April, as we put California's  
finest truck drivers to the test  
to take on the nation at **TDC26**.

**April 11** - Northern California TDC  
FedEx Freight Yard, West Sacramento

**April 25** - Southern California TDC  
Santa Anita Park, Arcadia

**April 26** - California TDC Finals  
Santa Anita Park, Arcadia

## SURVEYS

### ATRI 2026 Operational Costs Data Collection

The American Transportation Research  
Institute (ATRI) is asking for-hire motor carriers  
to participate in its annual *Operational Costs of  
Trucking* report.

For-hire motor carriers are asked to submit their  
information by **Friday, April 24**.

[Data forms are available on ATRI's  
website](#) along with a sample customized report  
and other helpful information for participants. All  
confidential data is protected and published only  
in anonymized averages.



[Click to Participate in the Survey](#)



### Grant Solicitation for Clean Truck and Bus Voucher Incentive Project (HVIP)

The **California Air Resources Board (CARB)** has announced a grant solicitation for an administrator to implement funding allocated to the **Clean Truck and Bus Voucher Incentive Project (HVIP)** in Fiscal Year (FY) 2026-27.

HVIP is a point-of-sale incentive to reduce the purchase price of zero-emission on-road heavy-duty vehicles. The HVIP third-party administrator selected through this solicitation will be responsible for conducting the day-to-day business of running HVIP among other duties.

This solicitation is open to federal, state, or local government entities or agencies; local air districts; and California-based non-profit organizations. Vehicle manufacturers and dealers are not eligible for this solicitation. CARB, in its sole discretion, may award a new Grant Agreement to the grantee selected in response to this solicitation each following year for FY 2027-28 and FY 2028-29, under similar terms and conditions.

**Applications must be submitted no later than 4:00 PM Pacific, May 12, 2026.** The grant solicitation and all associated documents can be found on CARB's **Low Carbon Transportation Investments and Air Quality Improvement Program (AQIP) Solicitations** webpage.

#### Grant Solicitation

CARB will hold one Solicitation Workshop for both this HVIP grant solicitation and the concurrently running **Clean Off-Road Equipment Voucher Incentive Project (CORE)** grant solicitation, at which time staff will be available to answer questions potential applicants may have regarding eligibility, application completion, and other requirements. Please see details for the Solicitation Workshop below:

**Tuesday, April 14**  
**11:00 - 11:50**

**Zoom Webinar**

**Register Now**

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### Zero-Emissions Showcase + Ride & Drive Event - San Diego

The **California Air Resources Board (CARB)** and **CALSTART** are sponsoring a free **Zero-Emission Truck and Off-Road Equipment Showcase + Ride & Drive** event.

Test drive zero-emission medium and heavy-duty commercial trucks and off-road equipment. Become familiar with the various zero-emission technologies.



Past Ride and Drive events have featured over 70 Class 2b-8 trucks, buses, vans, and off-road equipment. Receive information on incentive opportunities and the Cal Fleet Advisor technical assistance program.

CARB staff will be available to answer questions on programs including Advanced Clean Fleets applicable to state and local government fleets, Clean Truck Check, and Off-Road Diesel, among others.

**Wednesday, April 29**  
**9:00 - 3:00**

**Pechanga Arena**  
**500 Sports Arena Blvd.**  
**San Diego**

[Register Now](#)

## GOLF TOURNAMENTS



### 2026 Allied Conference Annual Golf Tournament

Picture this: you and your trucking industry friends taking on 18 holes at a Jack Nicklaus-designed course surrounded by spectacular mountain ranges and picturesque coastal valleys.

Join us **April 6** at the **Allied Conference's Annual Golf Tournament** at **Aliso Viejo Country Club** for a day of the very best in Orange County golf, offering a dynamic, engaging, and fun place to exercise your competitive streak AND do a little networking on the side.

Spots are limited, so click the button below to register for this opportunity in the great outdoors!

**This Monday, April 6**  
**8:00 - 5:00**

**Aliso Viejo Country Club**  
**33 Santa Barbara Dr.**  
**Aliso Viejo**

[Register Now!](#)

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### 2026 Central Valley Unit Richard Aranas Memorial Golf Tournament

Enjoy unique-to-the-Central-Valley champion Bermuda greens that provide a short-game experience unlike any other.

Fresno's Belmont GC is well-maintained, narrow and well guarded, with medium size greens, menacing bunkers and lots of trees. It's a good test of decision making, iron play and your short game.



**Monday, April 27**

**9:45am - 6:30**

**Belmont Golf & Country Club  
8253 East Belmont Ave.  
Fresno**

**Register Now!**

## SCHOLARSHIP NOMINATIONS

### Today is Your Last Day to Submit 2026 TUF SOB Applications

The **TUF SOB** (Truckers United Fraternity Super Offspring of the Boss) scholarship program provides financial support towards furthering the educational goals of trucking's next generation and the industry's future leaders.

Over the past three decades TUF SOB has provided more than \$400,000 to over 500 deserving scholars.

**This year's nominees must have their applications submitted by Wednesday, April 1.**



**2026 TUF SOB Application**

## ROAD CONSTRUCTION ALERT

### Weekend Closures Scheduled in April on US 50 in Sacramento

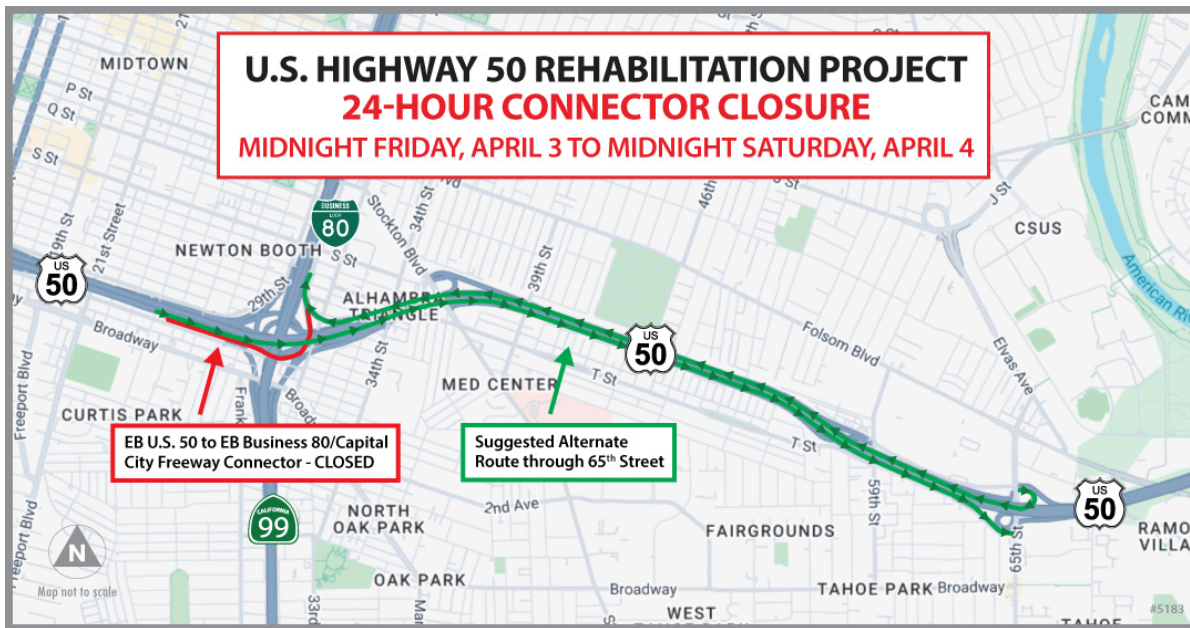
Construction on the "Fix50" Project in Sacramento continues with scheduled connector **closures on three consecutive weekends (beginning this weekend)** at the Capital City Freeway/State Route 99/US 50 interchange for pavement work.

With four lanes open in both directions of the highway, and all traffic splits and detours removed from the mainline last December, the project has entered its final phase with construction moving forward with the rehabilitation of these important connectors at this interchange.

**First Connector Closure:** 24-hour closure for eastbound US 50 to eastbound Capital City Freeway/Business 80 connector: **Midnight Friday, April 3 to midnight Saturday, April 4.**

#### **Suggested Detour:**

- Continue eastbound on US 50
- Take the off-ramp to 65th Street (Exit 8B) then turn left on 65th Street
- Take the loop on-ramp to westbound US 50, continue on westbound US 50 until reaching the eastbound Capital City Freeway/Business 80 connector ramp.



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## HELP DESK

### Compliance Confusion? Help Desk Has Your Solutions!

Remember to use the "Help Desk Online Contact Form" when you have a compliance or regulatory question on an issue.

The CTA Help Desk Online Contact Form is an exclusive member benefit designed to help with assisting various questions including:

- Driver qualification rules
- Drug testing questions
- Federal and California motor carrier safety regulations
- Log book/Hours-of-service regulations
- Vehicle load & securement rules
- Environmental regulations
- Hazardous materials regulations

Visit [www.caltrux.org/compliance-help-desk/](http://www.caltrux.org/compliance-help-desk/), or email [helpdesk@caltrux.org](mailto:helpdesk@caltrux.org).



Please be sure to include as much detail and information as possible. CTA's Government Affairs team will do their best to get back to you in timely manner.

[Contact the Help Desk](#)

## DRIVER SAFETY EDUCATION

### Brush Up on Safety Issues With TREDS

CTA is partnered with UC San Diego's [Transportation Research and Education for Driving Safety Center \(TREDS\)](#) to prevent crash-related morbidity and mortality by improving safe driving behaviors.

TREDS offers two courses aimed at preventing commercial motor vehicle-involved crashes from distracted and substance-impaired driving. They partner with the CTA to make courses available to the commercial motor vehicle industry.

Courses are approximately 60-minutes in length and available in both English and Spanish.



Courses focus on distraction related to the use of cell phones and electronic devices and...

Scope of the problem  
Risk & consequences  
Rules & regulations  
Distracted, fatigued & drowsy driving  
Work zone safety



Courses focus on substances most commonly reported to the FMCSA Drug & Alcohol Clearinghouse and...

Scope of the problem  
Contributing factors  
Risks & consequences  
Laws & testing procedures  
Strategies to drive-drug free

[Learn More](#)

## EVENT CALENDAR

[\*\*April 6, 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM: CTA Allied Conference Annual Golf Tournament\*\*](#)

[April 11: 2026 Northern California Truck Driving Championship](#)

[April 25 & 26: Southern California Truck Driving Championship & State Finals](#)

[April 27: Central Valley Unit Richard Aranas Memorial Golf Tournament](#)

[May 12 & 13: 2026 Call on Washington](#)

[May 21: Kern Unit Golf Tournament](#)

[June 1: San Joaquin Unit Joe Kent Memorial Golf Tournament](#)

[June 2: Summer 2026 Government Affairs Update](#)

[June 11: San Bernardino/Riverside Unit Arthur F. Thompson Memorial Golf Tournament](#)

[June 17 & 18: 2026 CTA June Board of Directors & Policy Committee Meetings](#)

[July 30: 2026 San Diego/Imperial Unit 17th Annual Golf Tournament](#)

[September 15: Fall 2026 Government Affairs Update](#)

## MEMBER EXCLUSIVE BENEFITS & SERVICES



### CIRCLE CLUB SPONSOR

Circle Club Sponsor companies have shown a special commitment to CTA members and the trucking industry.

We encourage our members to take advantage of these special offers and support these affiliated businesses.

[Click here to view CTA Circle Club Sponsor companies and their promotions.](#)

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### Digital Back Issues: The Caltrux Bookshelf

For decades **Caltrux Magazine** has informed and entertained our members with news and features regarding the transport business, our legislative challenges and wins, and in-depth focus on the movers and shakers of California trucking.

The [Caltrux Bookshelf](#) uses a digital flipbook format to display these magazine issues in high quality, complete with articles and advertisements - identical to what you already receive in the mail.