

Architecture & Construction Cluster



Careers in designing, planning, managing, building and maintaining the built environment.

Data Sources
Bureau of Labor
Statistics
CareerInfoNet
CareerClusters
The College
Board
Tracer

Construction Equipment Operators

Can you see yourself at the controls of a bulldozer, a crane, a road grader, or a trench excavator? Does the thought of someday walking down a street and pointing to a bridge, a highway, or a building and saying, "I made that" appeal to you?

If you are interested in turning the visions of architects and engineers into reality, a career as a **construction equipment operator** may be for you.

Construction equipment operators use machinery to move construction materials, dig soil, pave and surface roads, and much more.

Are You Ready To...?

- Work outdoors in all types of weather
- Control equipment by moving levers or foot pedals, operating switches, or turning dials
- Set up and inspect equipment
- Take care of equipment and make small repairs
- Follow safety guidelines
- Work long or irregular hours

It Helps To Be...

Physically strong, good with machines, coordinated, careful, and able to work well on your own and as part of a team.

A Day In The Life...

- Learn and follow safety regulations.
- Take actions to avoid potential hazards or obstructions, such as utility lines, other equipment, other workers, or falling objects.
- Locate underground services, such as pipes or wires, prior to beginning work.
- Monitor operations to ensure that health and safety standards met.
- Drive tractor-trailer trucks to move equipment from site to site.

Salary and Opportunity in the Austin-area

Median Hourly Wage: \$17.97

*That comes out to more than
\$37,378 a year.*

**In 2016, we had
1,697 Construction Equipment
Operators.
By 2026, we'll need 2,120.**

Could you be one of the 423?

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Construction Equipment Operators

After High School...

In addition to a high school diploma, many employers look for construction equipment operators who have participated in a **formal apprenticeship program**. Additionally, many construction equipment operators **learn informally on the job**.



Top 5 Industries for Construction Equipment Operators

1. Other Specialty Trade Contractors
2. Utility System Construction
3. Local Government, Except Education
4. Highway, Street and Bridge Construction
5. Nonresidential Building Construction

For more Career Profiles, visit our website:

[http://www.wfscapitalarea.com/YouthServices/
CareerPlanning.aspx](http://www.wfscapitalarea.com/YouthServices/CareerPlanning.aspx).

Postsecondary Education/ Training

- Apprenticeship program
- Informal on-the-job training

Related Industry Certifications

- Certification in Construction Materials—Asphalt
- Certification in Construction Materials—Concrete
- Certification in Construction Materials—Soils
- Oil Monitoring Analyst
- Operator Certification
- Slab Sawing & Drilling 201
- Wall Sawing 201
- Wire Sawing 201

Related Careers

- Construction Managers
- Glaziers
- Heavy Vehicle & Mobile Equipment Technicians
- Industrial Machinery Repairers
- Ironworkers

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