



Description

HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR

Department: Planning and Public Works
Job Code: 915800
Pay Range: Maintenance/Trades 20

FLSA: Non-exempt
Represented: Yes

Classification descriptions are intended to present a descriptive list of the range of duties performed by employees in the class. Classification descriptions are not intended to reflect all duties performed within the job.

GENERAL FUNCTION: This is highly skilled, journey-level work responsible for operating heavy-duty construction equipment, performing a wide variety of construction and maintenance work, and serving as a lead worker for various Planning and Public Works projects. Latitude is allowed for determining work procedures and the employee is independently responsible with regard to skilled methods and procedures used to perform the duties.

SERIES CONCEPT: This is a journey level position in a two-level series. The Heavy Equipment Operator is the second-level in the job series.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:

- Operate road equipment (loaders, rollers, chip spreader, belt loader, backhoe, grader, brush cutter, grinders, compactor and other equipment necessary) for road construction and maintenance, snow and ice removal operations, storm drainage construction and maintenance, and river improvement projects.
- Determine appropriate methods, materials and equipment necessary to complete tasks assigned. Follow standardized procedures and ensures that work completed meets County standards.
- Ensure that traffic control is appropriately arranged, and that other workers are following proper and safe procedures. Instruct crew members in correct methods of road maintenance, storm drainage construction and maintenance, and or river/flood control projects.
- Inspect and perform operator maintenance such as lubricating and making minor mechanical repair. Notify mechanics of any necessary repairs needed to equipment.
- Operate heavy equipment in removal and placement of earth materials and other similar operations to maintain existing network of County roads.
- Assist in routine road maintenance, drainage system construction and maintenance, and/or river/creek maintenance or flood control. Activity may include brushing; maintaining culverts; maintaining ditches; blading; reshaping and improving shoulders; and clearing debris from the roadway surface and right of way; excavating; placing embankment; pipe installation; catch basin and/or manhole setting; placing rip rap; vegetation management and/or mowing; cleaning debris from river; grading; snow clearing and removal.
- Hauling gravel, rock and snow; sanding; salting; and oiling.
- Lead a crew on a specific assignment or project.
- Maintain regular, predictable and punctual attendance during regularly scheduled work hours at assigned worksite.
- Meet travel requirements of the position.
- Perform the physical requirements of the position; work within the established working conditions of the position.
- Work a flexible schedule, which may include evenings, weekends, holidays and overtime.

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OTHER JOB FUNCTIONS:

- Perform other related duties as assigned.

SUPERVISION RECEIVED AND EXERCISED: This job class can lead a crew on a specific assignment or project. General assignments are received from a supervisor and an incumbent may be allowed to plan details of each project and carry through to completion. Work is reviewed periodically for thoroughness, timeliness and conformance with instruction and trade standards by an appointed supervisor.

WORK ENVIRONMENT: The work environment characteristics described herein are representative of those an employee encounters while performing the essential functions. The work is performed outside while operating a wide variety of heavy construction equipment. The work may involve heavy physical labor performed over extended periods of time, often under unfavorable working conditions and in inclement weather.

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS: The physical demands described herein are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions. Finger, hand, arm, leg, and foot dexterity is required to operate hand levers and foot pedals. Use of eye sight in order to drive equipment and to inspect work site. All assignments involve responsibility for safe operation of the equipment and the safety of others working in the immediate area. Work is performed in accordance with standard trade practices and in compliance with federal, state and local regulations. May be on 24-hour call. This job class may be required to lift 40 pounds. Manipulate various foot and hand control levers in coordination to accomplish desired task.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES:

Knowledge of:

- The principles and practices, standards and methods of construction-related equipment operation.
- Occupational hazards and safety precautions associated with the operation and maintenance of heavy-duty construction equipment.
- Applicable traffic laws, ordinances and rules.
- Methods, tools, and materials used in repairing and maintaining heavy equipment.
- Drilling and blasting operations.

Skill in:

- Hand-eye coordination and the ability to simultaneously use hand levers and foot pedals.

Ability to:

- Understand and carry out oral and written instructions, and to work independently in the performance of assigned duties.
- Establish and maintain effective working relationships with other employees.
- Operate heavy construction-related equipment in a safe and skillful manner.
- Lubricate and make minor mechanical repairs.
- Perform skilled manual work; and to demonstrate sufficient strength, agility and dexterity in performing the duties of the position.
- Lead other employees for specific assignments/projects.

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KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES: (continued)

- Work outdoors for extended periods under unfavorable working and weather conditions.
- Understand and follow written and verbal instructions.
- Work effectively and productively with others.
- Communicate effectively verbally and in writing to audiences of various social, cultural, ethnic, educational and economic backgrounds.
- Effectively coordinate, perform and complete multiple duties and assignments concurrently and in a timely manner.
- Meet the travel requirements of the position, if any.
- Physically perform the essential job functions of the classification.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS TO APPLY: Successful completion of a minimum of six months experience as an Equipment Operator or two or more years of experience in the operation and maintenance of heavy construction equipment or a combination of experience and training that would demonstrate the ability to perform the duties of the position is required.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS AND /OR QUALIFICATIONS: A Washington State Commercial Driver's License (Class A with air brake restriction removed and tank endorsement) is required. Satisfactory physical condition is required, as indicated by a County-approved physical examination. May be required to be on 24 hour on-call duty.