



EQUIPMENT OPERATOR

Department: Planning and Public Works
Job Class #: 917100
Pay Range: Maintenance/Trades 16

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: An employee in this classification is responsible for operating heavy duty construction equipment for various Planning and Public Works projects. An employee operates equipment in a training mode, in order to learn the duties of the Heavy Equipment Operator classification.

SERIES CONCEPT: Equipment Operator is an entry-level position into the Equipment Operator job series. There are two levels in the series. The Equipment Operator serves a six month probationary period before they are eligible to promotion to the Heavy Equipment Operator classification.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:

- Learn to operate road equipment (loaders, rollers, chip spreader, belt loader, backhoe, grader, brush cutter, graders, compactor and other equipment necessary to road maintenance and/or construction) for road construction and maintenance, snow and ice removal operations and river improvement projects.
- Inspect and perform operator maintenance; lubricate equipment and make minor mechanical repairs.
- Assist in routine road maintenance such as brushing, cleaning culverts and ditches, blading, reshaping and improving shoulders, and clearing debris from the roadway surface and right of way. Maintenance includes grading, snow clearing and removal, hauling gravel, rock and snow, sanding, salting and oiling.
- Operate heavy equipment in removal and placement of earth materials and other similar operations to maintain existing network of County roads; dig ditches; install culverts and catch basins.
- Determine methods and procedures for assigned tasks and leads crew.
- Establish and maintain effective working relationships with County employees and the general public.
- 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; may be on 24-hour call.

OTHER JOB FUNCTIONS

- Perform other related duties as assigned.

SUPERVISION EXERCISED AND RECEIVED: This job class may supervise a crew on a specific assignment. 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.

EQUIPMENT OPERATOR

Classification Description – Pierce County

Page 2

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 at various job sites. The work may involve heavy physical labor performed over extended periods of time, often under unfavorable working conditions and in inclement weather. Work is performed along side roads or in traffic areas.

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS: The physical demands described herein are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions. This classification requires finger, hand, arm, leg, and foot dexterity is required to operate equipment hand levers and foot pedals in coordination to accomplish desired tasks; adequate vision to drive equipment and inspect work sites; climbing up into large pieces of equipment and to sit for prolonged periods of time while operating equipment. This job class is subject to 24 on-call availability during emergency situations. Lifting requirements for this job class is 40 pounds.

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 simultaneous use of hand levers and foot pedals.

Ability 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.
- Supervise other employees for specific assignments/projects.
- 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.
- Maintain regular, predictable, and punctual attendance during regular scheduled work hours at assigned site.
- Physically perform the essential job functions of the classification.

EQUIPMENT OPERATOR
Classification Description – Pierce County
Page 3

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS TO APPLY: One or more years of experience in the operation and maintenance of heavy construction equipment is required.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS AND/OR QUALIFICATIONS: Must have a valid Washington State Driver's License with a Commercial Driving License (CDL) Class A endorsement and with air brake restrictions. Satisfactory physical condition is required, as indicated by a County-approved physical examination. May be on 24-hour call. After successful completion of probationary period, the Equipment Operator is eligible for promotion to the Heavy Equipment Operator.