

Iowa Department of Administrative Services – Human Resources Enterprise  
Job Classification Description

## Equipment Operator

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### Definition

Performs equipment operation and physical labor activities including operation of equipment such as, but not limited to, dump trucks, front-end loaders, tractors, motor graders, high reach, excavators, and an array of support equipment such as air compressors, oil distributors, and pneumatic tools; performs related work as required.

*The work examples and competencies listed below are for illustrative purposes only and not intended to be the primary basis for position classification decisions.*

### Work Examples

Performs roadway and right of way, shoulder, roadside, bridge, surface, drainage and related maintenance to include: surfacing, sealing and filling joints and cracks, removing bumps, filling depressions, and removing and replacing damaged pavements; filling edge ruts, smoothing shoulders, mowing shoulders, and rebuilding shoulders; picking up litter, cutting brush, repairing fence, controlling weeds, maintaining signage; and, cleaning, washing, and lubricating working members of bridges.

Performs duties related to snow and ice removal which includes: operating Roadway Weather Information System (RWIS), the Data Transmission Network (DTN), and related computers and software applications to record and receive data and make decisions regarding times, temperatures, weather conditions, and material usage to operate snow and ice removal equipment such as single or tandem axle dump trucks that may be equipped with tailgate or hopper spreader, straight blades or V-plows, wing plows, and underside ice blades; includes preparing and spreading abrasives and de-icing chemicals on the roadway by using a loader for mixing abrasives and chemicals.

Inspects phases of bridge, grading and paving projects as assigned; prepares written inspection reports and records as required.

Services and performs routine maintenance and minor repairs on all assigned equipment such as oil changes, greasing and inspections; assists mechanic on major breakdowns and overhauls such as repairs on brakes, hydraulics, electrical, transmission and mechanical systems.

Performs traffic control to assist motorists through work zones in a safe and orderly manner.

Performs construction and maintenance on Department of Transportation facilities and grounds including carpentry, electrical, plumbing, janitorial, masonry, and landscape maintenance.

Maintains waterways by reshaping fore and back slopes, cleaning vegetation from ditches, maintaining and repairing title culvert tubes and intakes using back hoes, loaders, power shovels and draglines.

Performs herbicide-spraying operations in right-of-way areas by using a backpack sprayer, driving a truck and/or operating a pressure sprayer.

Loads and unloads materials, such as abrasives, de-icing chemicals and rock into trucks, using end loaders, shovels and other hand tools.

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Performs other duties as assigned including, but not limited to inspecting maintenance and construction projects and serving as a crew leader as assigned or in absence of the supervisor or lead worker.

Adjust handwheels and depress pedals to control attachments, such as blades, buckets, scrapers, or swing booms.

Take actions to avoid potential hazards or obstructions, such as utility lines, other equipment, other workers, or falling objects.

## Competencies Required

Knowledge:

- Mechanical – Machines and tools, including their designs, uses, repair, and maintenance.
- Building and Construction – Materials, methods, and the tools involved in the construction or repair of houses, buildings, or other structures such as highways and roads.
- Computers and Electronics – Electronic equipment, and computer hardware and software, including applications and programming.
- English Language – The structure and content of the English language, including the meaning and spelling of words, rules of composition, and grammar.
- Basic Arithmetic – Addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division.

Abilities:

- Control Precision – Quickly and repeatedly adjust the controls of a machine or a vehicle to exact positions.
- Manual Dexterity – Quickly move your hand, your hand together with your arm, or your two hands to grasp, manipulate, or assemble objects.
- Static Strength – Exert maximum muscle force to lift, push, pull, or carry objects.
- Trunk Strength – Use your abdominal and lower back muscles to support part of the body repeatedly or continuously over time without 'giving out' or fatiguing.
- Extent Flexibility – Bend, stretch, twist, or reach with your body, arms, and/or legs.
- Multi-limb Coordination – coordinate two or more limbs (for example, two arms, two legs, or one leg and one arm) while sitting, standing, or lying down. It does not involve performing the activities while the whole body is in motion.
- Oral Expression – Communicate information and ideas in speaking so others will understand.
- Oral Comprehension – Listen to and understand information and ideas presented through spoken words and sentences.
- Deductive Reasoning – Apply general rules to specific problems to produce answers that make sense.
- Problem Sensitivity – Tell when something is wrong or is likely to go wrong. It does not involve solving the problem, only recognizing there is a problem.

Skills:

- Equipment Maintenance – Performing routine maintenance on equipment and determining when and what kind of maintenance is needed.

- Operation and Control – Controlling operations of equipment or systems.
- Operation Monitoring – Watching gauges, dials, or other indicators to make sure a machine is working properly.
- Reading Comprehension – Understanding written sentences and paragraphs in work related documents.
- Speaking – Talking to others to convey information effectively.

### Minimum Qualification Requirements

Applicants must meet at least one of the following minimum requirements to qualify for positions in this job classification:

- 1) Graduation from high school, GED, or equivalency.
- 2) A total of four years of education (as described in number one) and/or full-time experience in any area, where one year of experience equals one year of education.

### Notes

Positions in this class require possession of a valid Commercial Learner's Permit upon hire. Within a timeframe determined by the appointing authority, a valid Commercial Driver's License with the required endorsements and applicable restrictions must be obtained and subsequently maintained to continue employment.

In conjunction with Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations (parts 40 and 382), this job requires a pre-employment drug screen and will require ongoing participation in the employer's random drug and alcohol testing program and will be subject to the regulations regarding the Federal drug and alcohol testing program.

Prior to starting employment, all persons are required to have a post offer, pre-employment physical verifying the physical ability to perform the duties described.

Within a period of time after hire, as determined by the appointing authority, employees in this class may be required to obtain and maintain Herbicide Applicator certification from the Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship.

Travel, including overnight travel, may be required for positions in this class. Employees must arrange transportation to and from assigned work areas.

Within a timeframe determined by the appointing authority, employees in designated positions are required to reside within 30 minutes driving time, during normal conditions, from the assigned work location.

Employees must respond to emergency situations as required.

Employees must be able to work up to 16 consecutive hours.

*Effective date: 03/20 KMJ*