

DEPARTMENT: ALL APPLICABLE
CLASSIFICATION: NON-COMPETITIVE
APPROVED: APRIL 16, 2026

HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: Operates heavy duty construction and maintenance equipment, such as bulldozers, excavator, truck crane, power roller, front-end loader, power grader, black-top paver and hydraulic lift; drives trucks; performs manual labor and other duties as required. Operates under direct supervision of foreman, supervisor or superintendent who assigns and oversees work. May supervise the work of laborers or other subordinate personnel. Does related work as required.

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:

1. Operates front-end loader in the loading of trucks;
2. Operates bulldozer in ground preparation for and in construction/maintenance;
3. Operates excavators in digging footings, trenches and in road widening;
4. Operates power grader in construction work;
5. Operates black-top paver in road maintenance and construction;
6. Operates pneumatic, static, and vibratory rollers in road construction;
7. Operates truck crane in road and bridge construction;
8. Operates hydraulic forklift in handling materials;
9. Drives trucks to and from construction sites, loaded with construction materials or ice or snow;
10. Drives trucks to sand or salt roads;
11. Drives snow plow and snow loading machine under snow control program;
12. Performs related and incidental manual labor as required such as cleaning culverts, shoveling snow, painting, and road and sewer maintenance work. May be assigned to assist water department in this field;
13. May be assigned to maintenance and/or general upkeep of equipment;
14. Operates tractor trailer in moving of heavy equipment to and from construction sites;
15. May be assigned to assist and/or operate the aerial lift or bucket truck.

FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGES, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:

Thorough knowledge of mechanical, hydraulic systems, and their maintenance; good knowledge of rigging with chain and cable used in both equipment transport and handling of construction materials; good knowledge of the operation of heavy equipment; working knowledge of load placement, proper hauling procedures and applicable laws; ability to understand and follow simple verbal and written instructions; ability to work well with others; ability to service and make minor repairs and adjustments to equipment; ability to oversee the work of others; mechanical aptitude; dependability; willingness to work in adverse weather conditions; physical condition commensurate with the demands of the position.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Graduation from high school or possession of an equivalency diploma and one (1) year of experience in the operation of heavy construction equipment.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT:

1. Possession of a CDL-A at time of appointment and for the duration of employment. Possession of an alternate applicable license is acceptable when application is accompanied by an administrative letter stating that the candidate will not operate a motor vehicle contrary to the Vehicle and Traffic Law of New York State;
2. For North Tonawanda Public Works and the Town of Niagara, only a CDL – B license is required. The experience may be in the operation of heavy automotive equipment that requires a CDL to operate;
3. For Niagara County Public Works, a CDL-A permit or license is required at time of appointment. If the employee only has a permit, a CDL-A license must be obtained within one (1) year of appointment.