

HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR

6-WEEKS (240 hours)

• WARMAN



CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Heavy equipment operators operate heavy equipment used in the construction and maintenance of roads, bridges, airports, gas and oil pipelines, tunnels, buildings and other structures; in surface mining and quarrying activities and in material-handling work. They are employed by construction companies, heavy equipment contractors, public works departments and pipeline, logging, cargo-handling and other companies. They may also act as independent business owners.

EARNING POTENTIAL

The average wage for a heavy equipment operator working in small town or rural Saskatchewan is \$30.33 per hour and up to \$45.50 per hour, according to the provincial government's 2013 Saskatchewan wage survey. Based upon a 37.5 hour work week, the average annual salary is about \$59,000.

WHAT YOU WILL LEARN

This industry-recognized training provides Powered Mobile Equipment certification on two pieces of heavy equipment.

The machinery used for training is determined by the work project requirements and may include the following:

- MOTOR GRADER
- HYDRAULIC EXCAVATOR (Trackhoe)
- CRAWLER TRACTOR (Dozer)
- FRONT-END LOADER

FIELD & SIMULATION TRAINING

Operation techniques for two machines will be introduced in a state-of-the-art simulator lab. The simulator lab provides a safe, controlled and risk-free environment enabling a smoother transition to the actual machines and increased productivity on the work site.

On an actual work site, you will operate, observe, learn, and practice basic skills required to perform construction tasks. You will perform daily safety inspection and routine maintenance on each machine.

The program uses three different learning methods:

- 1) Simulation
- 2) Practical field projects
- 3) Classroom theory

COURSE LIST

SIMULATOR TRAINING

Simulators combine the finest technology and operator instruction to create cutting-edge training. Realistic controls ensure familiarization and muscle memory using the same hardware as in the actual machine. Each training exercise measures and records the simulation sessions so you can see the results.

GROUND DISTURBANCE - Levels 1 and 2 (Global)

This course teaches the primary pitfalls which result in illegal and dangerous strikes. You will be trained in accordance with regulations of the *Pipeline Act and Regulations* with cross-reference to other legislation as applicable and will receive both Saskatchewan and Alberta regulations.

SAFETY CONSTRUCTION ORIENTATION TRAINING (SCOT) [SCSA]

In response to industry requirements for an entry-level safety orientation for the construction industry, the Saskatchewan Construction Safety Association has developed the SCOT Training course. Certification is only valid in Saskatchewan. *NOTE: This training was formerly known as the Saskatchewan CSTS (Construction Safety Training System).*

HEAVY EQUIPMENT SAFETY

Learn proper safety procedures on the site such as required personal protective equipment, hand signals and safe use and storage of fluids. Perform routine safety inspections and maintenance checks such as checking fluid levels, brakes, tires and tracks.

ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

- A current/valid Class 5 Driver's License
- Students must be at least 17 years of age, be physically fit and have a full range of body motion
- Meet Great Plains College's English language requirement (see English Language Proficiency Requirement document online)
- Standard First Aid and CPR C certification is recommended.

Note: if you do not meet these entrance requirements, special admission options may be available.

During the practical work project component, training will be approximately 10 hours per day.

SPECIALTY COURSES

In the classroom and on the work site, you will have opportunity to specialize on two pieces of heavy equipment.

You will become familiar with:

- Functions and purposes of the controls, components and attachments available for the machines.
- Demonstrating start-up and shut-down, safety and preventative maintenance procedures.
- Performing actual work projects, under supervision, on two heavy equipment machines.

UPCOMING COURSE DATES

- April 23 - June 1, 2018
- August 13 - September 21, 2018
- April 29 - June 7, 2019
- August 19 - September 27, 2019

PROGRAM FEES**

Total Tuition: \$9,995 (includes books, application fee, student fee and Ground Disturbance).

Hard hat; steel-toed boots (above ankle); coveralls; work gloves; safety glasses; hearing protection; reflective safety vest are required. Estimated cost: \$300 - \$400.

**Please note that these prices are subject to change.

FIND OUT MORE

To find out more about the Heavy Equipment Operator program, book an appointment with a student adviser today.

Toll-free: (866) 296-2472

Warman: (306) 242-5377

Email: info@greatplainscollege.ca

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