



CAREER PATH
Industrial & Engineering Technology

CAREER CLUSTER
Architecture and Construction

CAREER PATHWAY
Maintenance/Operations



OPERATING ENGINEER

Operate one or several types of power construction equipment, such as motor graders, bulldozers, scrapers, compressors, pumps, derricks, shovels, tractors, or front-end loaders to excavate, move, and grade earth, erect structures, or pour concrete or other hard surface pavement. May repair and maintain equipment in addition to other duties.

Knowledge and Skills Needed

In addition to courses required for high school graduation, essential skills and knowledge needed for a career as an operating engineer are reinforced by taking rigorous and relevant courses, as well as participating in work-based experiences and student organization activities.

(See the Sample Personal Plan of Study for suggested coursework, activities, and knowledge and skills to pursue in preparation of an occupation in this Career Cluster.)

Education Requirements

Occupation	Percent of Missouri employees aged 25 to 44 in the occupation whose highest level of educational attainment is:		
	High School or Less	Some College	Bachelor Degree or More
Operating engineers & other construction equipment operators	77.8%	19.6%	2.6%
Construction trades workers	77.6%	19.8%	2.6%
Construction and extraction	75.7%	21.4%	2.9%

Most Common Educational Level: Moderate-term on-the-job training

Note: Be sure to learn whether your occupation has a specific requirement for education or licensing. Apprenticeships are available for more than 240 occupations. Visit www.oe.doleta.gov/bat.cfm

National and State Wage Information

Location	Pay Period	2006		
		Entry*	Median	Experienced**
United States	Hourly	\$13.89	\$17.74	\$23.98
	Yearly	\$28,900	\$36,900	\$49,900
Missouri	Hourly	\$14.85	\$19.99	\$25.63
	Yearly	\$30,900	\$41,600	\$53,300

Based on (*) lower 25% and (**) upper 25% percentile of wages

National and State Employment Trends

Operating Engineer	Employment		Percent Change	Job Openings*
	2006	2016		
United States	424,200	459,600	+ 8%	11,770
Missouri	8,920	10,110	+ 13%	350

*The estimate for Job Openings includes both turnover that results from people who leave the occupation (e.g. quit, retire, death) and new jobs that are created.

Educational Opportunities

Note: This list may not be all inclusive. For more information about Missouri schools and programs, visit www.dhe.mo.gov

Linn State Technical College

Linn, MO
 (573) 897-5196
www.linnstate.edu



www.missouriconnections.org

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