

WAGE GRADE CAREER PATH

WG 5705

TRACTOR OPERATOR & TRACTOR OPERATOR (AIRCRAFT)

This occupation covers nonsupervisory jobs involved in operating wheel-mounted tractors and towed or attached equipment. The work performed typically includes transporting materials and equipment, towing aircraft, digging, loading, planting, spraying, fertilizing, harvesting, clearing, or mowing. Examples of the towed and attached equipment include carts, sweepers, trailers, towbars, plows, brush hogs, planters, mowers, combines, spreaders, sprayers, backhoes, and front-end loading devices.

WG02 - Step
WG05

Part 1

Apprentice/Helper/Trainee; Trade/Less than Journeyman

- 1 Complete New Hire Orientation
- 2 Complete Civilian Training Plan requirements for current position
- 3 Complete task qualifications for current position
- 4 Complete task certifications for current position
- 5 Master simple to common work tasks under supervision.

Grade 5 operators have a working knowledge of tractor controls for starting, stopping, and maneuvering the tractor and towed vehicles in congested areas as well as knowledge of pick-up and delivery locations within the activity. They also possess knowledge of operating characteristics of the tractor and the carrying capacity of the towed vehicles and are skilled in judging clearances, heights, and turning angles of the tractor and towed vehicles. They know the location of grease fittings and fluid reservoirs and are able to grease the vehicles and replenish oil, hydraulic, and other consumable fluids.
- 6 Maintain successful to above average performance ratings

WG05 -
WG08

Part 2

Trade/Less than Journeyman

- 1 Continue required on-the-job and formal classroom training required in Civilian Training Plan
- 2 Complete task qualifications for current position
- 3 Complete task certifications for current position
- 4 Master common to complex work tasks.

Grade 6 operators manipulate both tractor and equipment controls at the same time and operate boom slope mowers to cut grass on slopes while operating the tractor on level ground or along roads. They use knowledge of equipment in making multiple connections from the equipment to the tractor, connecting mechanical drive shafts and hydraulic lines. They are skilled in operating tractors and equipment between shrubs and trees, along fences and curbs, in snowy or marshy areas, and in areas where tree limbs, bushes, and rocks are more likely to cause clogging or jamming of the equipment. They have experience performing seeding operations that require straight, uniform rows. Some operators at this level have skill in operating backhoes and front-end loading devices to move trees, dig ditches, load and unload soil, and perform other tasks associated with grounds maintenance. They are skilled in adjusting the equipment for various job requirements such as setting the height of mower blades, the depth of plow blades, and the rate of application for seeders and sprayer attachments. They have knowledge of the operating characteristics of the tractor and towed or attached equipment, such as tractor gears and power ratios, as well as lifting, balancing, braking, and turning capacities. They use knowledge of equipment capabilities to determine power requirements for various soil conditions and to determine safe operating speeds.

Grade 6 operators (aircraft) have knowledge of tractor operating characteristics and are skilled in operating the tractor and tractor controls. They are knowledgeable of towed aircraft turning and braking capacities. They are knowledgeable of ground traffic control regulations and airfield layout; have skill in securing towed aircraft by installing wheel chocks, locking devices, blade tie-downs, engine covers, and attaching ground wires; and are skilled in attaching the towbar and in manipulating tractor controls to tow aircraft in open areas.

Grade 7 operators have skill and knowledge in the operation of the tractor and manipulation of equipment controls together while compensating for rough terrain features such as steep hills, ravines, holes, and ditches. When operating slope mower tractors and attachments, they must use skill in steering the tractor to compensate for the degree of the slope and the stability of the ground. Some tractor operators at this level have skill in backhoe operation. They routinely manipulate backhoe controls for projects requiring close tolerances. They are skilled in backfilling on steep slopes and in operating front-end loading devices on steep banks, using caution in undercutting high banks to avoid soil slides. They are able to perform operator maintenance on the tractor and equipment.

Grade 7 operators (aircraft) are skilled in towing and positioning fixed and rotary wing aircraft in crowded hangars. They have a working knowledge of aircraft towing characteristics including landing gear, safety pins, wing locks, braking systems, and tying-down and grounding methods. They use skill and knowledge in attaching the towbar and manipulating the tractor steering to maneuver the aircraft around obstacles. They use skill in backing the towed aircraft into position along side of, or in between, other aircraft with the assistance of spotters.

Grade 8 operators (aircraft) possess a thorough knowledge of complex hook-up, towing, and positioning of large aircraft, using extensive knowledge of tow tractor operating characteristics. They have knowledge of airfield procedures to move aircraft across active runways and are skilled in manipulating tractor controls while making difficult clearance judgments of distant wing and tail sections, while following instructions from the nose walker. Operators maneuver the aircraft around such obstacles as work-stands, ground support equipment, and other aircraft with minimal clearances that are often out of sight. They use skill and knowledge in attaching a variety of towbars to the tractor. At this level, tractor movements are greatly magnified in wing and tail sections of aircraft, requiring skill in exact manipulation of tractor controls. They are also skilled in towing aircraft with limited visibility.
- 5 Maintain successful to above average performance ratings

WG09

Part 3

Journeyman

- 1 Continue required on-the-job and formal classroom training required in Civilian Training Plan
- 2 Complete task qualifications for current position
- 3 Complete task certifications for current position
- 4 Master common to complex work tasks. Grade 9 operators (aircraft) possess thorough knowledge of tow tractor operating characteristics and complex coordinated steering requirements of the most difficult dual tractor moves. They have extensive knowledge of allowable angles for the tractor, towbar, and landing gear and are skilled in judging how manipulation of tractor controls will be magnified in the movement of the aircraft. They perform dual moves requiring extensive coordination between operators and are skilled in towing with limited visibility, positioning aircraft wheels between fixed tie-downs to avoid damaging aircraft tires and in compensating tractor steering when landing struts are deflated.
- 5 Provide production support services
- 6 Maintain successful to above average performance ratings

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