



Applied Engineering & Technologies Division

Technical Standards for Heavy Equipment Operators

A student wishing to enroll in the Heavy Equipment Operators curriculum must meet the following standards:

They must:

- Have sufficient visual capacity to read prints, schematics, and other documents as well as meters and instrumentation
- Be able to clearly distinguish all the primary colors
- Have good peripheral vision, depth perception, and minimum corrective sight of 20/40 in at least one eye (CDL standards - waiver from NC DMV may be needed)
- Be capable of hearing tones of various pitches emitted by testers, meters, gauge and instrumentation alarms, and other general warning and alarms
- Be capable of hearing equipment running and/or operating to determine if working correctly
- Be capable of accurately operating GPS equipment and specific displays (including testing and/or measuring equipment) as necessary
- Be capable of testing, general troubleshooting, installing components, and/or making repairs to items located on any part of a machine or piece of equipment in order to assist in general maintenance and repair
- Be capable of operating construction, agricultural, industrial trucks as needed
- Be able to communicate with co-workers, instructors, and other students at a moderate distance without line of sight
- Be able to understand, read, and comprehend instructions in operator manuals, manufacturer's instructions, and warning labels in English
- Be able to work at heights up to 25' while carrying tools and equipment
- Be able to lift objects weighing up to 50 lbs. and install equipment overhead
- Not have a debilitating fear of heights or confined spaces
- Be capable of working with many types of hand, air, or other power tools
- Be able to wear hard hats, safety glasses, steel toe shoes, and other safety related equipment as required by the Industry
- Be able to use petroleum products or any other chemical used in the program
- Must be able to climb ladders, stairwells, etc. while maintaining three points of contact
- Must be able to rotate head/neck 90 degrees each direction from a forward looking position (left and right)
- Must be able to overcome motion sickness created by simulators and/or must be able to safely operate equipment in motion

The heavy equipment operator trade is one with many inherent risks. The safety of the employee (student) is of the utmost concern and cannot and should not be compromised just because an individual wants to go into the trade.