



Heavy Construction Equipment Operator (21E)

The Army is always completing hundreds of construction projects and Heavy Construction Equipment Operators are integral to that process. Airfields, roads, dams and buildings can't be created without moving tons of earth and building materials or producing concrete and asphalt. Construction equipment operators use bulldozers, cranes, graders and other heavy equipment to complete these kinds of projects.

Heavy Construction Equipment Operators are responsible for operating crawler and wheeled tractors with dozer attachments, scoop loader, motorized grader and towed or self-propelled scraper. Some of your duties as a Heavy Construction Equipment Operator may include:

- Interpreting information on grade stakes

- Driving bulldozers, roadgraders, and other heavy equipment to cut and level earth for runways and roadbeds

- Clearing, grubbing, stripping, excavating, backfilling, stockpiling and pushing scraper with tractor crawler

- Cutting and spreading fills material with scraper

- Transporting heavy construction equipment with tractor-trailer

- Assisting in performance of combat engineer missions

- Lifting and moving steel and other heavy building materials using winches, cranes, and hoists

- Digging holes and trenches using power shovels

TRAINING

Job training for a Heavy Construction Equipment Operator consists of nine weeks of Basic Training, where you'll learn basic Soldiering skills, and four to 12 weeks of Advanced Individual Training. Part of this time is spent in the classroom and part in the field. You'll learn:

- Operation of different types of construction equipment

- Operation of specific construction vehicles

- Maintenance and repair of equipment

HELPFUL SKILLS

Helpful attributes include:

An interest in operating heavy construction equipment
A preference for working outdoors
An interest in working with your hands

ADVANCED RESPONSIBILITIES

Advanced level Heavy Construction Equipment Operators supervise and train other Soldiers within the same discipline. As an advanced level Heavy Construction Equipment Operator, you may be involved in:

- Constructing embankments
- Excavating hills and slopes with crawler tractor
- Finishing slopes
- Mixing soil stabilization materials
- Constructing embankments
- Performing surface and drainage maintenance

RELATED CIVILIAN JOBS

The skills you learn as a Heavy Construction Equipment Operator will help prepare you for a civilian career with building contractors, state highway agencies, rock quarries, well drillers or construction firms. You'll be able to consider a future as an operating engineer, heavy equipment operator, well driller or rigger.

There are a number of formal 3-year operating engineer apprenticeship programs, which you may qualify for as well. These programs, which are administered by the International Union of Operating Engineers and the Associated General Contractors of America, Inc., consist of at least three years or 6,000 hours of on-the-job training and 144 hours per year of classroom instruction.

RELATED ARMY POSITIONS

- Concrete and Asphalt Equipment Operator (21V)
- Crane Operator (21F)
- General Construction Equipment Operator (21J)

Information about this MOS provided by: www.goarmy.com

For further information visit: www.minnesotanationalguard.org