



New York State Department of Labor  
Division of Safety and Health  
License and Certificate Unit, Room 161A  
State Campus, Building 12  
Albany, NY 12240  
(518) 457-2735

## Crane Operator's Certificate of Competence Information and Instructions for applicants

**An individual or owner who operates a crane on a construction, demolition or excavation site outside New York City must obtain a certificate of competence issued by the Commissioner of Labor (section 482, General Business Law).**

### Age

You must be at least 21 years old.

### Experience

- You must have at least three years of practical experience operating a mobile crane or tower crane.
- You must have practical knowledge of crane maintenance.
- A mobile crane is defined as that which is a mobile, carrier-mounted, power-operated hoisting machine, utilizing hoisting rope and a power-operated boom, which moves laterally by rotation of the machine on the carrier.

### Physical Condition

You cannot have an uncontrolled physical defect or illness that might decrease competence. Examples are epilepsy, heart disease, or an uncorrected defect in vision or hearing.

### General Examination

The test includes:

1. Understanding and using the components of load charts and range diagrams
2. Recognizing and avoiding site hazards
3. Proper crane set up
4. Operations: a very broad category relating to safe crane operation
5. General technical knowledge such as (but not limited to) inspections, wire rope, rigging, electrical hazards, crane terms and basics of machine power flow systems, and
6. Certification requirements.

Reference sources include:

1. 12 NYCRR Part 61 Occupational Licensing and Certification
2. OSHA Crane Standard 1926, and Rigging Standard 1926, web address [www.osha.gov](http://www.osha.gov)
3. ASME 30.5, web address [www.asme.org](http://www.asme.org)
4. The Construction Safety Association of Ontario, web address [www.csao.org](http://www.csao.org), has one handbook on cranes and one on rigging

5. Other crane reference sources that sell crane and rigging manuals are on the web.

### Practical Examination

You must take a practical examination in crane operation after you pass the general examination.

### Verification

Verification must be on company letterhead. The letter(s) must specify the:

1. Dates of employment
2. Average number of weeks or months that you worked per year
3. Average number of hours per week you spent operating a crane
4. Types and sizes of cranes you operated
5. Average number of hours you spent doing crane maintenance and related tasks.

Apprenticeship training: You must include verification from the apprenticeship program.

Self-employment: Send proof of crane equipment ownership. Proof includes:

1. Invoices
2. Cancelled checks
3. 1099s
4. Attestation of crane equipment ownership on company stationery or
5. Other appropriate documentation
6. Include at least one letter of reference from another company, on company letterhead.

This letter of reference should verify your crane experience, including the type of crane(s) operated and time spent in crane operation.

We check all verification letters.

### Submit to the address above

1. A completed application
2. The Appendix to a License Application (GO 1) and
3. A \$150 check or money order made payable to the Commissioner of Labor

The fee is non-refundable.