**Heavy Equipment Operator**

**Tompkins County**

**Department:** Public Works, Towns, Villages  
**Classification:** Non-competitive  
**Labor Grade:** 9

**Approved:** 7/17/81, CA048-94  
**Revised:** 5/94; 2/99; 02/05; 10/06; 1/07; 07/07; 11/12; 10/15; 10/16

**By:** HH, Commissioner of Personnel

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**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:** No later than the final filing date announced, the applicant must demonstrate -

Two years of experience as a Motor Equipment Operator in the public sector and/or two years experience in the public or private sector in a position in which the applicant has operated one or more pieces of heavy equipment such as: a front end loader, bucket loader, ditcher, power shovel, dragline, bulldozer, grader, crusher, loader, paver, vibratory roller, truck crane, tractor trailer, back-hoe or other heavy equipment AND possession of a valid New York State Commercial Driver’s License, Class A or B at the time of application and maintenance of such license for the duration of employment.

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**SPECIAL REQUIREMENT FOR THE TOWN OF ITHACA:**

The candidate must possess a valid New York State Commercial Driver’s License, Class A or B at the time of application. There can be no Air Brakes restriction listed at the time of application. The candidate is also expected to demonstrate the ability to safely and effectively operate a heavy truck, which utilizes a manual transmission, and/or other such heavy equipment as required. The incumbent will be required to obtain a Class A license with Tank endorsement within one year of appointment. The employee must maintain the CDL and appropriate endorsements for the duration of employment. Failure to maintain the required license may result in termination of the employment situation.

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**SPECIAL REQUIREMENT FOR THE TOMPKINS COUNTY HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT:**

The candidate must possess a valid New York State Commercial Driver’s License, Class A or B at the time of application. There can be no Air Brakes restriction listed at the time of application. The candidate is also expected to demonstrate the ability to safely and effectively operate a heavy truck, which utilizes a manual transmission, and/or other such heavy equipment as required. The incumbent must possess a Tank endorsement (N) within 90 days of appointment. The employee must maintain the CDL and appropriate endorsements for the duration of employment. Failure to maintain the required license may result in termination of the employment situation.

**NOTE:** For the County Highway Department, an incumbent in this title may be assigned to either the Bostwick Road or Caswell Road location based on operational needs.

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**DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS:**

This is manual work involving responsibility for the safe and efficient operation of various types of heavy motor equipment used for highway construction or maintenance, and the performance of recurring manual duties related to the operation of the equipment. The work also involves the performance of a variety of labor tasks. This class is distinguished from Motor Equipment Operator in that the work involves full-time or the substantial part-time operation of a variety of Heavy Equipment. Heavy Equipment, for purposes of this specification, is defined as: front end loader, bucket loader, ditcher, power shovel, bulldozer, grader, crusher, loader, paver, vibratory roller, truck crane, tractor trailer, back-hoe, etc. Operation of trucks over 26,000 GVW may be a regular requirement but will not be considered as heavy equipment operation experience. The work is performed under general supervision with some leeway allowed for the exercise of independent judgment. Supervision may be exercised over the work of laborers and others at the work site. The incumbent will perform all related duties as required.

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**TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:**

- Depending on the municipality an incumbent in this class may operate a front-end loader, bucket loader, ditcher, power shovel, bulldozer, grader, crusher, loader, paver, vibratory roller, truck crane, tractor trailer, back-hoe, or other heavy
equipment in support of highway or road construction and maintenance;
• Operates a truck in connection with the removal of snow and in the transportation of stone, gravel and supplies;
• Operates a tractor or truck with snow loader, snowplow or other attachment;
• Performs preventative maintenance on department equipment;
• Performs manual labor, such as loading trucks, digging ditches, cutting trees and brush, cleaning culverts, raking blacktop and chipping wood;
• May supervise a small group of laborers and others on specific tasks as required;

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:

• Good knowledge of the operation and maintenance of a variety of heavy equipment;
• Good knowledge of the geography of the area;
• Ability to understand and follow simple oral and written directions;
• Mechanical aptitude;
• Willingness to respond to emergencies and perform overtime work;
• Willingness to work outside under adverse weather conditions;
• Dependability;
• The employee’s physical condition shall be commensurate with the demands of the position.

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