



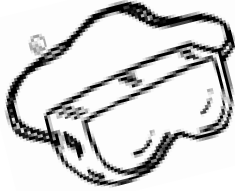
**Trades Offer Girls Options (TO GO)**  
503-335-8200 x24  
1714 NE Alberta  
Portland, OR 97211  
[www.tradeswomen.net](http://www.tradeswomen.net)



## Next Steps on the Pathway to a Career as an Equipment Operator

### Learn Math: It Pays.

What you study in the classroom will help you succeed in the field. Most heavy equipment operator apprenticeship programs require, at a minimum, a 'C' or better in high school algebra. *The more math you know, the better your chances for acceptance into apprenticeship.* Register for these math and science classes:



Algebra  
Applied Mathematics  
Chemistry  
Calculus

Geometry  
Physics  
Trigonometry

### Take Shop: Get Hands-on Experience.

Employers and apprenticeship programs are looking for applicants with *experience*. Enroll in your high school's trades-related classes. Sign up for professional technical classes or other classes that utilize mechanical skills like engineering. *Almost any class that applies math and let's you develop your mechanical abilities will earn you points toward apprenticeship.*

If your high school does not offer shop classes, check out the class selection at your local community college or hardware stores.

Look for summer opportunities! Learn about the Oregon Building Congress and the Summer Construction Academy:  
<http://www.obcweb.com> or call 503-685-8313.



### Build Your Resume: Volunteer!

Volunteering in the realm of construction allows you to advance your career while you give back to your community. Many valuable skills and glowing recommendations can be gained by working with non-profit organizations that build or repair homes.

Contact Habitat for Humanity at <http://www.habitat.org/local/> to find local chapters or REACH Community Development's <http://www.reachcdc.org>

Be sure to secure *written documentation* of the work you do and classes you take, as well as written recommendations from supervisors or crew leaders.

For more information, see the back of this page.

## Apply for Apprenticeship: Earn as You Learn.

Apprenticeship is the *paid-on-the-job-training* to become a heavy equipment operator. For more information about this four+ year training program, contact the following resources:

The Bureau of Labor and Industries (BOLI) can provide contact information for all equipment operator and heavy duty repairer apprenticeship programs in your area.



*In Oregon, contact the Bureau of Labor and Industries Apprenticeship Division.*

<http://www.boli.state.or.us/apprenticeship/index.html>

For information on becoming an apprentice call:

503-731-4072 in Portland,

541-686-7623 in Eugene,

541-322-2435 in Bend,

or 541-776-6201 in Medford.



*In Washington, contact the Department of Labor and Industries.* <http://www.lni.wa.gov/scs/apprenticeship/>  
900 Ocean Beach Hwy, S-10 in Longview, WA 98632-4013

Oregon Tradeswomen, Inc. also lists apprenticeship openings: <http://www.tradeswomen.net>

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### Union Operating Engineers

Oregon/Southwest Washington IUOE Local 701

5001 Franklin Blvd.

Eugene, OR 97403

541-741-7292

<http://www.oetraining.org>

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### Open Shop Operating Engineers

Associated General Contractors

9450 SW Commerce Circle

Wilsonville, OR 97070

503-685-8307

<http://www.agc-oregon.org>

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## Find a “Pathway” Job: Build your driving and mechanical skills.

To prepare for a career in equipment operating, look for work in a parts house, material handler positions, flagging jobs, driver, or laborer positions that will expose you to physical work. Learn to drive a clutch and drive different types of vehicles. Working around or on farm or rental equipment can be useful as well. These jobs will give you hands-on experience with materials and tools an operating engineer uses.

## Reach Out to Resources: Get the Tools to Succeed!



Oregon Tradeswomen, Inc. can assist you with career-counseling and resume-building, mock interviews, and more through our Pathways to Success program.

Contact OT’s Pathways program at 503-335-8200 x23.



Oregon  
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