

Machine Operator



What They Do

A production operator, also known as a machine operator, uses equipment to assist with manufacturing, packaging, and other steps along a production line. While the exact duties may vary from company to company, a production operator may be expected to handle heavy machinery such as a forklift.

Job Duties

- Monitor and maintains warehouse equipment and machinery
- Sets up and operates a production machine in accordance with established procedures and guidelines
- Reads and interprets blueprints and diagrams to select, position, and secure machinery
- Adjusts machine settings to complete tasks accurately, according to specifications and in a timely fashion
- Oversee training of new or Junior Machine Operators
- Use machine equipment to complete tasks
- Performs routine inspections of manufacturing equipment
- Evaluates the efficiency of each unit regularly, identifying improvements as needed

Job Earnings

****CareerZone.NY.gov**

\$45,580 per year salary average
for entry-level workers
\$80,820 per year salary average
for experienced workers

Education/Training

Employers typically require machine operators to have a high school diploma or a General Educational Development (GED). Most machine operator positions are entry-level and on-the-job training is common. In addition to requiring employees to attend safety courses, companies may require machine operators to be licensed and certified to operate special machines.

Job Outlook

Overall employment of machine operators is projected to grow 3% from 2019 to 2029, about as fast as the average for all occupations. Many job opportunities are expected to arise from the need to replace workers who leave the occupation each year.

Machine Operator - Career Pathway

Ways to Start Preparing for Your Future Career TODAY!

1 Middle/High School Classes to Take:

- Computers
- Mathematics
- Technology
 - Blueprint Reading, Woodworking, CAD, Drafting

2 Clubs/Extracurricular Activities:

- Boy Scouts of America Explorer Program (www.exploring.org)
- SkillsUSA (www.SkillsUSA.org)
- GCC Tech Wars (www.techwarsgccny.org)
- Camp Hard Hat for Grades 8-10 (www.BEAGenesee.com)

3 Local BOCES/Career & Technical Education Programs:

- Genesee Valley BOCES (www.GVBOCES.org)
 - Metal Trades Program
- Monroe2-Orleans BOCES (www.Monroe2BOCES.org)
 - Engineering & Metal Fabrication: Machining
- Orleans-Niagara BOCES (www.ONBOCES.org)
 - Advanced Manufacturing & Engineering

4 Volunteer Opportunities:

- Habitat for Humanity

5 Local Colleges/Training:

- Colleges:
 - SUNY Alfred (www.AlfredState.edu)
 - Erie Community College (www.ECC.edu)
 - Finger Lakes Community College (www.FLCC.edu)
 - Monroe Community College (www.MonroeCC.edu)
- Training Programs:
 - Genesee Valley BOCES Adult Education (www.GVBOCES.org/adulted)
 - CNC Machining/Program
 - Monroe 2-Orleans BOCES Center for Workforce Development (www.Monroe2CWD.edu)
 - Machining with CNC Fundamentals
 - Orleans-Niagara BOCES Adult & Workforce Education (www.ONBOCES.org)
 - Machine Tool