

# Oregon OSHA's crane standard for construction activities

Construction – Subdivision CC



## Crane operator qualification and certification

The deadline for employers to comply with crane operator qualification and certification requirements under 1926.1427 has been delayed until Nov. 10, 2018. Until then, OAR 437-003-0081 Crane Operator Safety Training Requirements remain in effect.

### Nov. 10, 2018

(previous deadline Nov. 10, 2017)

**Operator qualification and certification – 1926.1427** Before operating any equipment crane operators must be qualified through a prequalification/certification training period or qualified by one of the following:

- An accredited crane operator testing organization
- An audited employer program
- The U.S. military
- A government entity

## Crane standard - key requirements

### • Ground Conditions – 1926.1402(b)

Equipment must not be assembled or used unless ground conditions are firm, drained, and graded so that the equipment manufacturer's specifications for adequate support and degree of level are met.

- **Assembly/Disassembly Director – 1926.1404(a)(1)** Assembly and disassembly must be directed by a person ("A/D director") who meets the criteria for a competent person and a qualified person, or by a competent person who is assisted by one or more qualified persons.

### • Qualified Rigger – 1926.1404(r)(1)

When rigging is used for assembly and disassembly, the employer must ensure that the work is done by a qualified rigger – in addition to the requirements in 1926.251, *Rigging equipment for material handling*.

### • Keeping clear of the load – 1926.1425

Materials must be rigged by a qualified rigger when employees are within the fall zone and engaged in hooking, unhooking, guiding, or in the initial connection of a load to a component or structure.

### • Hazard assessments and precautions inside the work zone – 1926.1408(a)(2)

Before beginning equipment operations, the employer must determine if any part of the equipment, load line, or load (including rigging and lifting accessories) – if operated up to the equipment's maximum working radius in the work zone – could get closer than 20 feet to a power line.

### • Inspections – 1926.1412

- Cranes must be inspected:
- **Post-assembly**, by a qualified person to ensure that the crane is configured in accordance with the manufacturer's criteria
  - **Before each shift**, by a competent person who must inspect during the shift or before the shift starts



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- **Each month equipment is in service**, by a competent person who must document, sign, and date the items inspected and results of the inspection, and retain the report for three months
- **Annually**, by a competent person who must document, sign, and date the items inspected and results of the inspection, and retain the report for at least 12 months
- **Wire rope inspection – 1926.1413**  
Wire ropes must be inspected:
  - **Before each shift**, by a competent person who inspect during the shift or before the shift starts
  - **Monthly**, by a competent person who must inspect during the shift or before the shift starts
  - **Annually**, by a competent person who must document, sign, and date the items inspected and results of the inspection, and retain the report for at least 12 months
- **Safety devices – 1926.1415**  
The following safety devices must be on all applicable cranes:
  - Crane level indicator
  - Boom stops
  - Jib stops if a jib is attached
  - Locks on equipment that has foot pedal brakes
  - Integral holding or check valve on hydraulic outrigger jacks and hydraulic stabilizer jacks
  - Horn that is built in or immediately available to the operator
- **Operational aides – 1926.1416**  
The following devices must be on all applicable cranes:
  - Boom hoist limiting device
  - Luffing jib limiting device
  - Anti two blocking device
  - Boom angle or radius indicator
  - Jib angle indicator if the equipment has a luffing jib
  - Boom length indicator if the equipment has a telescopic boom
  - Load weighing devices
- **Signal person qualifications – 1926.1428**  
Signal persons must meet the standard’s qualification requirements [1926.1428(c)] by doing one of the following:
  - Option 1: Have documentation from a third party qualified evaluator that shows the signal person meets the requirements
  - Option 2: Have the employer’s qualified evaluator assesses the person and determine and document that the person meets the requirements
- **Phase-in – 1926.1427(k)(2)(i) and (ii)**  
Crane operators must be competent to operate the equipment safely. Employees who do not have the required knowledge or ability to operate the equipment safely, must be trained by the employer before they operate the equipment.
- **Overhead powerlines – 1926.1430(a)**  
Operators and crew members must be trained in the topics listed in 1926.1408(g).
- **Signal persons – 1926.1430(b)**  
Employees assigned to work as signal persons who do not meet the standard’s qualification requirements [1926.1428(c)] must be trained by the employer.
- **Operators excepted from 1926.1427(a)(3) – 1926.1430(c)(3)**  
Operators of derricks, sideboom cranes, or equipment with a maximum manufacturer-rated hoisting/lifting capacity of 2,000 pounds or less must be trained on the safe operation of their equipment.



*The Technical Section of Oregon OSHA produced this fact sheet to highlight health and safety programs and rules. The information is intended to supplement the rules and provide best practices to employers.*