

# Arizona Division of Occupational Safety and Health Standard Highlight

## **CRANE OPERATOR QUALIFICATION AND CERTIFICATION**

The new OSHA crane standard, 29 CFR 1926.1400, adopted by ADOSH on June , 2011, contains certain requirements regarding operator qualification and certification. This card is meant to briefly summarize those requirements.

### Qualification or Certification

After November 10, 2014, operators of a crane or other piece of equipment covered by the standard, must be qualified or certified. Whether an operator is qualified or certified is a matter of personal preference, or employer preference, but can be an important consideration in terms of whether or not the training is portable. "Portable" refers to the ability to transfer one's training between employers. In other words, whether or not the training received from one employer will be acceptable should the operator transfer to a different employer. (Note, even prior to 11/14/2014, employers must still ensure that operators are competent to safely operate the equipment.)

Regarding qualification or certification, employers and operators have the following options:

**Option 1: Certification - An operator is certified by an accredited crane operator testing organization.**

- \* Includes written and practical exams
- \* Is specific to the type and size of crane
- \* Is valid for five (5) years
- \* Is portable

**Option 2: Qualification - Operator is qualified through an audited employer program.**

- \* Program is developed and/or audited by an outside, accredited testing agency.
- \* Written and practical tests
- \* Operator is qualified on specific type and size of crane.
- \* Valid for five (5) years
- \* Not portable

**Option 3: Qualification through US Military - Operator is qualified via branch of the US Military.**

- \* Applies only to employees of the Dept. of Defense or armed services
- \* Not valid for employees of private contractors
- \* Specific to type and size of crane
- \* Valid for time period determined by issuing authority.
- \* Not portable

**Option 4: Licensed by a Government Entity - A government entity may be considered to be an accredited crane testing organization.**

- \* Must meet the requirements of 1926.1427(e)(2).
- \* Must include written and practical exams
- \* Specific to type and size of crane
- \* Valid only in jurisdiction of licensing entity.
- \* Valid for duration defined by licensing entity.

The new construction crane standard has specific requirements for training and qualification of operators. Be sure operators are in compliance with those requirements.

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**For more information:**

**ADOSH  
602-542-5795 or 520-628-5478**

**On the web at:  
[http://www.ica.state.az.us/ADOSH/ADOSH\\_main.aspx](http://www.ica.state.az.us/ADOSH/ADOSH_main.aspx)**