OSHA Rule: Personnel Certification / Qualification Requirements

National Commission for the Certification of Crane Operators (NCCCO)
OSHA’s Personnel Certification/Qualification Requirements

OSHA 1926.1427

• OPTION 1:
  – Accredited testing organization

• OPTION 2:
  – Audited employer qualification program

• OPTION 3:
  – U.S. military

• OPTION 4:
  – Licensing by a government entity

*Deadline to meet requirements: November 10, 2014*
Option 1

Nationally recognized accrediting agency (e.g. NCCCA or ANSI)

Determines compliance with testing/test administration criteria

Accredited testing organization (e.g. NCCCO)

Develops and administers the tests (written & practical) to certify operators

Different tests for different capacity/type of equipment
Option 2

Accredited testing organization (e.g. NCCCO)

Certifies

Auditor

Employer Qualification Program

Compliance with testing/test administration criteria

Employer-administered written & practical tests
Option 4

State/local government entity that oversees licensing office

Determines license office complies with testing/test administration criteria

State/local government license office

Issues Operator license

*States must comply by February 9, 2011*
OSHA’s Options Matrix

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Accredited testing organization</th>
<th>YES</th>
<th>5 years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Audited employer qualification program</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>5 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US Military license</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>Set by issuing entity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Government entity license</td>
<td>NO</td>
<td>Set by issuing entity, not &gt; 5 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Valid only in entity’s jurisdiction</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1926.1427 (b)-(e)
Certification Criteria

1926.1427(j)

- **OPTION 1:** Accredited testing organization
- **OPTION 2:** Audited employer qualification program
- **OPTION 3:** U.S. military
- **OPTION 4:** Government entity license

- **Knowledge (written test)**
  - Controls/performance characteristics
  - Calculate load chart capacity
  - Preventing power line contact
  - Ground support
  - Read and locate info in operating manual
  - Appendix C subjects

- **Skills (practical test)**
  - Shift Inspection criteria
  - Operational skills
  - Application of load chart information
  - Safe shut-down and securing procedures
Language and Literacy

1926.1427 (h)

• Verbal (oral) tests may be administered to the operator, however the candidate...
  – Must pass a written demonstration of literacy relevant to work
  – Demonstrate the ability to use written manufacturer procedures (operator manuals)

• Tests may be administered in any language the operator understands, however...
  – Certification card must note the language
  – Operator must be furnished with operators manuals and load charts in the same language
Pre-qualification / Training

- **Operator-in-Training**
  - Tasks with their ability
  - Continuous direct supervision
    - Trainer performs no other tasks while supervising
    - Direct line of sight or direction communication
  - Trainer is certified/qualified operator or has passed at least the written exam
  - Trainer is employee or agent of employer
  - Specific applications are forbidden
    - Near power lines, multi-crane lifts, hoisting personnel, etc.

1926.1427(f)
Signal Person Requirements

• All workers who will participate in signaling or flagging a crane, giving direction as to where and what will be lifted, must be qualified
  – Point of operation not in full view of operator
  – View of direction of travel is obstructed
  – Site-specific safety conditions
Signalperson Qualifications

1926.1428(a)

• OPTION 1:
  – Third Party qualified evaluator
    • Portable
    • Documentation required
  – Certification meets this requirement

• OPTION 2:
  – Employer’s qualified evaluator
    • Non-Portable
    • Documentation required
Qualified Evaluator

1926.1401

• Qualified Evaluator (third party)
  – An entity that, due to its independence and expertise, has demonstrated that it is competent in accurately assessing whether individuals meet the Qualification Requirements in this subpart for a signal person.

• Qualified Evaluator (not a third party)
  – A person employed by the signal person’s employer who has demonstrated that he/she is competent in accurately assessing whether individuals meet the Qualification Requirements in this subpart for a signal person.
Qualification Requirements

1926.1428(c)

- Know and understand types of signals
- Be competent in application of types of signals
- Basic understanding of equipment operations and limitations, swinging and stopping loads, boom deflection
- Understand general requirements in OSHA
- Oral or written test
- Practical test
Signaling Requirements

• Method of signals must be agreed upon
  – Hand, voice, radio, audible, special signals
• Anyone can give a stop or emergency signal
• For voice signals, must be through a dedicated channel
• Operator, signal person and lift director (if there is one) must be able to communicate in the language used.
• 1926.1401: Definitions: A qualified rigger is defined as a qualified person
  – Qualified Person: a person who, by possession of a recognized degree, certificate, or professional standing, or who by extensive knowledge, training and experience, successfully demonstrated the ability to solve/resolve problems relating to the subject matter, the work, or the project.

• A qualified rigger is required for certain conditions
  – During assembly/disassembly
  – Employees within the “fall zone” (1926.1401)
Training Requirements

• 1926.1430(d)
  – The employer must train each competent and qualified person applicable to their role

• 1926.1430(g)(1)
  – The employer must **EVALUATE** each employee required to be trained under this subpart to confirm that the employee understands the information provided in the training.
Certification/Training Costs

• 1926.1427(a)(4)
  – Whenever operator qualification or certification is required, the employer must provide the qualification or certification at no cost to operators who are employed by the employer.

• 1926.1430(g)(3)
  – Whenever training is required, the employer must provide the training at no cost to the employee.

*Documentation is CRITICAL*
More Information

  - Compliance Assistance
  - Fact Sheets
  - OSHA Presentation
  - Final Rule documents
- [www.nccco.org](http://www.nccco.org)
  - NCCCO Guide to OSHA rule
  - Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
OSHA Rule: Personnel Certification / Qualification Requirements

National Commission for the Certification of Crane Operators (NCCCO)