



BACKHOE

Basic Heavy Equipment Operation & Safety Certification Course

Target Audience: This course is designed for DOT, municipal public works, parks, streets/roads, water, wastewater, distribution/collection and/or storm water utility workers or any other government entity employees who may be called on to operate this equipment.

The course is also recommended for emergency backup personnel who may be called on to use the equipment in special circumstances such as after a natural disaster or any other reason where no other operators are available. Other recommended participants are crew leaders, division supervisors, agency safety officers, department safety coordinators, general safety trainers and/or fleet team members.

Additional applications would be as an orientation for new operators and a good refresher for seasoned operators. As this course has a *Train the Trainer* component, it is also recommended for in-house assigned equipment trainers.

Trainees will receive a Training Certificate!



**For more information or to inquire
about upcoming training dates:**

Email: Info@WeTrainAmerica.com

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Classroom Part

Accident Case Studies: Reviews a recent history of public sector backhoe and similar mobile equipment accidents. Relative OSHA Standards and general backhoe work zone safety issues are considered.

Equipment Orientation: Includes the viewing of owner's operator video that introduces each machine component, identifies all controls and their function(s) and discusses basic safe operating principles.

External Work Zone Set-up (Temporary Traffic Control): Vehicular and pedestrian traffic strategies are summarized by referencing MUTCD Chapter 6 Temporary Traffic Control sections. This includes work in travel lanes, at the roadside and when impacting sidewalk use.

Internal Work Zone Set-up (Perimeters and Barriers): Basic set up of a backhoe work zone is discussed, including use of cones, barricades, caution tape and other barriers. It includes positioning of essential and non-essential equipment and the declaring of minimum distances for separating machinery and pedestrian workers.

Excavating Issues: Covers utility location, shoring for backhoe proximity, inclines, surface stability, safe backhoe travel areas and equipment attitude/position.

Safe Mounting, Seatbelts, No-Rider Rules and Prohibited Uses: Covers falling object protective structures (FOPS), rollover protective structures (ROPS), vehicle restraining devices and rider-passenger rules. It also covers the improper use of machinery as aerial platforms or man lifts.

Imperative Operator Safety Rules: This section covers the 12 absolute rules that operators must obey to prevent serious accidents.

Imperative Essential Pedestrian Worker Rules: Includes a number of close proximity rules for employees acting as spotters or who perform special "close-to-machine" tasks such as final pipe positioning or installing plugs.

Imperative Non-Essential Pedestrian Worker Rules: Includes a number of close proximity rules for non-operators and motivates all workers to watch for conditions that are indicators of potential mobile equipment and work zone accidents.

Special Operation Tasks: Use of hand signals, rigging, tag lines and handling suspended loads, travel on roads and "trailing" are covered here, as well as operations unique to this piece of equipment.

Preparing for an Unattended Work Zone: Discusses issues related to vacated work zones; overnight, waiting for part(s) or waiting for other crew situations and how machinery should be secured when left unattended.

Equipment Inspection and Use of Pre-Job Briefing Checklists: This section reviews a sample pre-job briefing and checklist form that can be used as a tool to promote backhoe safety.



Classroom:



- Machine Orientation
- Work Zone Hazard Analysis
- Job Set-Up—Pre-Job Checklists
- ...and more!

Outside Exercises:



Front Operations

- Machine Inspection
- Start Up
- Travel With / Without Loads
- Front Loader Operations
- Loading Dump Trucks
- Return to Dig—Auto Detent
- Back Blading

Rear Operations

- Setting Stabilizers
- Throttle Settings
- Main Boom
- Curling Bucket Combination
- Safe Spotter Positions
- ...and more!