

## Drafters

(CAD Drafter, 3-D Imaging Designer)

# What's this job all about?

Drafters make detailed drawings of things that will be manufactured or built. Architects who design buildings and engineers who design products work with drafters to prepare technical drawings. Production and construction workers follow these drawings to build everything from televisions to office buildings. The drawings made by drafters show the technical details of products and structures from all sides and they include the exact dimensions and materials to be used, and the procedures to be followed.

CAD stands for Computer Assisted Design. These drafters use a special computer program to make drawings, and some even design three dimensional models.

### Here's what Drafters, CAD Drafters, and 3-D Imaging Designers do:

- Prepare technical drawing.
- Meet with engineers, architects, and others who need the technical drawings.
- Learn details about the project or item that will be built.
- Visit job sites to collect data and take measurements or get measurements from clients.
- Take rough information and turn it into sketches or scale drawings.
- Use their own knowledge of the field to fill in some of the details on drawings.
- Refer to technical handbooks and tables.
- Create several different versions of a drawing reflecting a different manufacturing or construction approach.
- Work with computer programs.
- Coordinate the work of other drafters.

### How much money can I make?

**Median Wage: \$21.40 per hour to \$26.01 per hour.**

In Alaska, the median wage for drafters varies by the type of work and location. Drafters generally make between \$3,709 and \$4,508 per month. Drafters who work full time usually receive benefits. Typical benefits include health insurance, a retirement plan, and paid vacations.

### How long does it take to receive training?

Many drafters have a four year college degree in drafting. However, employers often provide training in computer-aided drafting (CAD) software. Rapid changes in CAD software require you to spend time each year learning new techniques and software programs. The drafting programs at technical schools are similar to those at colleges, however, the programs at technical schools generally have less course work in theory and liberal arts and are aimed at preparing people for jobs. In addition, drafting and CAD assistants can learn skills on the job.

## HELPFUL HIGH SCHOOL COURSES

If you are interested in this occupation, you should take courses in high school that prepare you to enter college. Some of these courses are also available at the technical or college level.

### Computer and Information Sciences

- Basic Computer
- General Computer Applications
- Computer Graphics

### Construction Trades

- Construction

### Drafting

- Exploration of Drafting Careers
- Drafting, Architectural
- Drafting, Technical and Mechanical
- CAD Design and Software
- Blueprint Reading/Drafting Work Experience

### Energy, Power, and Transportation Technologies

- Introduction to Mechanics

### Fine and Performing Arts

- Art/Drawing and Painting
- Computer Assisted Art

### Industrial and Technology Education

- General Industrial Arts
- Materials and Processes
- Metal and Wood Technology
- Production Systems/Manufacturing Systems
- Technology Systems/Emerging Technologies

### Mathematics

- Pre-Algebra, Algebra
- Geometry, Trigonometry

### Precision Metalwork

- Machining
- Metalworking
- Sheet Metal

## When I'm ready to work, will there be job openings?

In Alaska, there are about 323 architectural and civil drafters employed in this occupation. Nationally, about 230,000 drafters work in this medium-sized occupation. The outlook for drafters varies by the area of specialization but generally the outlook is average to 2014.

*Please see the Training Programs section of this booklet to find out more about training in these career fields in Alaska.*





## Driller

(Also called Exploration Driller, Construction and Well Driller, Gas and Oil Driller)

# What's this job all about?

Drillers use equipment to drill holes in the earth to take samples or to insert pipes. Gas and oil drillers operate the equipment used to drill for gas and oil and minerals. Construction and well drillers may drive trucks with equipment to drilling sites. Exploration drillers work in the mining industry and drill for precious metals. In Alaska, drilling sites are usually hard to reach, so equipment may be flown in by helicopter. Gas and oil and mineral drillers set up the drilling equipment at the area geologist and geophysist believe they will find gas or oil or precious minerals. They install a derrick, a tower-like steel structure that supports the drilling equipment, stabilize the drill rig with supports and they select the various tools that are needed for drilling. Both of these jobs use big equipment to get the job done.

Many drillers in Alaska have to travel to their work sites. They may work as part of a crew for 12-hour days for weeks and then have weeks off to go home or on vacation. For some drillers, this work schedule is part of what they like about their jobs. You should consider whether you might like that type of work schedule if considering this job.

### Here's what Drillers do:

- Place a drill, level it, get it stabilized and make sure all the parts are attached.
- Check how deep to dig and make sure the drill is at the right angle.
- Control the speed of the equipment during drilling.
- Monitor the depth of the drill and make the drill longer when needed.
- During the drilling process workers may add lubricants or water into the well to cool off the diamond bit, as the bits are expensive.
- Monitor the process by watching and listening to the sound of the drill to know when the drill has reached a tough layer, and decide if any changes are needed.
- Deal with different soil surfaces and textures.
- Take samples and record the location and depth where they were taken.
- Make holes for power poles or create underground tunnels.
- Operate machinery, maintain and repair it.
- Work outside, often in extreme weather conditions.
- Travel to the worksite, sometimes even travel internationally.

### How much money can I make?

**Median Wage: Gas and oil drillers: \$31.05 per hour, Construction and well drillers: \$24.37 per hour.**

Half of all construction and well drillers earn between \$3,753 and \$4,626 per month (\$21.65 and \$26.69 per hour). Nationally, the median wage for construction and well drillers is \$2,813 per month (\$16.23 per hour). In Alaska, the median wage for gas and oil drillers is \$5,382 per month. Half of all gas and oil drillers earn between \$3,397 and \$6,119 per month (\$19.60 and \$35.30 per hour). A good portion of what drillers can make comes from working overtime hours, so your income can be quite a bit higher than the median wage. Gas and oil drillers who work full time usually receive benefits like sick leave, paid vacation, and health insurance. Some employers also provide a retirement plan.

## HELPFUL HIGH SCHOOL COURSES

A high school degree is almost always required to work in these fields. You should take courses in high school that prepare you to earn a high school diploma. Here are some of the classes that will help prepare you for this field: Some of these courses are also available at colleges and technical schools.

### **Construction Trades**

Exploration of Construction Careers  
Construction  
Construction Trades Work Experience

### **Drafting**

Drafting, Technical and Mechanical  
Blueprint Reading

### **Energy, Power, and Transportation Technologies**

Introduction to Mechanics

### **Health and Safety Education**

Safety and First Aid

### **Industrial and Technology Education**

Exploration of Careers

### **General Industrial Arts**

Equipment Maintenance and Repair  
Industrial Safety and First Aid  
Industrial and Technology Education Work Experience

### **Life and Physical Sciences**

Earth Science  
Geology

### **Mathematics**

Integrated Math  
General Math  
Pre-Algebra, Algebra

### **Physical Education**

Physical Education  
Fitness and Conditioning Activities

## How long does it take to receive training?

To work as a driller you need a high school diploma or GED. You can prepare for these jobs by taking courses at a professional technical or two-year school. Courses in shop, general math, and drafting may be helpful. A few colleges offer programs in drilling. Most drillers learn skills informally on the job. You may start with little or no training and learn skills from an experienced worker over time. You do need to be physically fit, however. Many workers in Alaska also learn their skills through being employed by gas, oil and mining companies. These programs usually take two years to complete. In Alaska, oilfield operations are becoming more technical, so some employers are looking for a higher level of skill.

## When I'm ready to work, will there be job openings?

According to Alaska industry representatives there is indication for a higher than average growth for drillers through 2014. Most openings are expected to result from growth in the occupation and the possibility of a natural gas pipeline being built.

*Please see the Training Programs section of this booklet to find out more about training in these career fields in Alaska.*



# What's this job all about?

Electricians install, test, and maintain electrical systems. In the past electricians chose to work either in construction or maintenance. Today many work in both. In general, construction electricians assemble and install electrical systems.

Maintenance electricians maintain and repair systems.

If you choose to work in this field in Alaska, you should be prepared to work in all types of weather conditions. Your work may also take you to different locations, so you may have to stay away from home for periods of time if you are working on a big project.

### Here's what Electricians do:

- Read blueprints to learn where to put circuits, outlets, and other equipment.
- Plan how to install wires and conduit (pipe or tubing) in the walls and concealed areas of homes and businesses.
- Install metal or plastic boxes for switches and outlets.
- Pull insulated wires or cables to boxes to complete circuits.
- Connect wires to circuit breakers, transformers, and other components.
- Use soldering guns.
- Test that all the circuits work properly.
- Follow the national electric code as well as state and local building codes.
- Install fiber optic or coaxial cables for computers and telephones.
- Connect motors to electrical power.
- Install electronic controls for industrial equipment.
- Use hand tools like screwdrivers, pliers, knives, and hacksaws and use power tools and testing equipment, like voltmeters.
- Keep electrical systems and equipment in good working order.
- Inspect equipment and fix problems.
- Check equipment for safety and warn managers when equipment is not safe.
- Install new electrical equipment and repair systems.

### How much money can I make?

**Median Wage: \$28.03 per hour.**

In Alaska, the median wage for electricians is \$4,859 per month. Half of all electricians earn between \$3,831 and \$5,888 per month (\$22.10 and \$33.97 per hour) and wages vary according to region and type of work. Apprentices start at about half the wage of skilled workers and receive raises as their skills improve. Full-time electricians may receive benefits such as health insurance, sick leave, and paid vacation. Those who work for small companies may need to provide their own insurance.



Michelle Rushton, 21, is an apprentice electrician. She is shown here learning about the iron worker trade as part of her experience in Alaska Works "Women in the Trades" program.

# MICHELLE 21

R U S H T O N

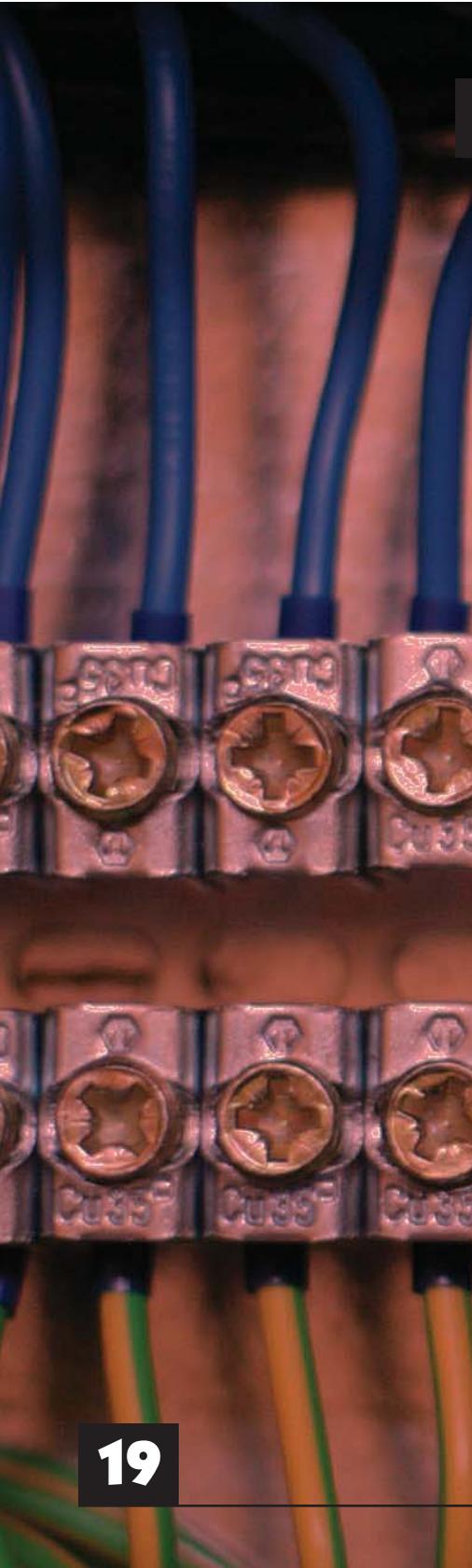
Michelle Rushton likes to work hard and she likes to work outside. Like many young people who finish high school, Michelle started looking seriously at what she wanted to do with her life after she received her GED. Luckily for her, she saw an ad in the newspaper for Alaska Works Partnership's "Women in the Trades Program" and decided to apply. "The program is a 30-day program that exposed us to all the trades," Michelle said. "It was really great for me because it opened my eyes to a lot of things."

Michelle had never before been talked to about the possibility of a career in the construction industry. "No one ever talked to me about the trades when I was growing up," she said. "The program made me realize that it is a great opportunity to be in a trade." Michelle said one of her hardest decisions after being in the Alaska Works Partnership program, and being exposed to a variety of construction trades, was picking which trade she wanted to pursue. "I had the hardest time deciding what to go in to because I respect them all," she said.

But her interest in working hard and the opportunity to work both inside and outside ultimately attracted Michelle to apply for the electrical apprenticeship program. Michelle was accepted and is now working alongside a journeyman electrician learning the intricacies of her job.

"I show up at 7 a.m. every day, attend safety meetings a couple of times a day and then my day involves doing whatever the journeyman tells me to do," she said. Michelle loves the work – both inside and outside – and says she's even learned to deal with working alongside of mostly men all day long.

"It's a great field for women," she said. "It's a great field for anyone."



## Electricians

### How long does it take to receive training?

There are a number of pathways to becoming an electrician in Alaska. You can become an apprentice through a union or non-union program. You can attend a trade school or technical program to learn skills, but when you finish your trade-related course and get a certificate of completion, you still need to finish all parts of an approved apprenticeship program. Apprenticeship programs in this field take about four years to complete the minimum of 8000 hours of on-the-job training and a minimum of 144 hours per year of related classroom instruction required to reach a journeyman level.

### When I'm ready to work, will there be job openings?

In Alaska, about 2,035 electricians are employed. Nationally, about 659,400 electricians work in this occupation. The outlook for job openings for electricians is excellent to 2014. Average growth is projected. Nationally, the number of jobs for electricians is expected to grow as fast as average through the year 2014.

*Please see the Training Programs section of this booklet to find out more about training in these career fields in Alaska.*

## HELPFUL HIGH SCHOOL COURSES

A high school degree is almost always required to work as an electrician. Here is a list of high school courses that will help prepare you:

### **Business**

Introduction to Business

### **Construction Trades**

Exploration of Construction Careers  
Construction

### **Electricity and Electronics**

Residential Wiring  
Industrial Electricity, Electronics  
Construction Trades Work Experience

### **Drafting**

Drafting  
Blueprint Reading

### **Energy, Power, and Transportation Technologies**

Energy and Power

### **Health and Safety Education**

Safety and First Aid  
Industrial and Technology Education  
Exploration of Careers  
General Industrial Arts

### **Industrial Safety and First Aid**

Industrial and Technology Education Work Experience

### **Life and Physical Sciences**

Physics

### **Mathematics**

Integrated Math, General Math  
Applied Math, Pre-Algebra  
Algebra, Business Math

### **Physical Education**

Physical Education, Fitness and Conditioning Activities



## Freight Handlers

(Laborers and Freight, Stock and Material Movers)

# What's this job all about?

Freight handlers move materials from one spot to another, like into and out of trucks. They load, unload, and stack a wide variety of materials that can be large, heavy, oddly shaped, fragile, or some combination of all of these. They must know how to move each type of item safely and quickly. Freight handlers use dollies, hand trucks, and wheelbarrows to move small or light items. They use hoists and cranes to move larger, heavier items.

Alaska is known for being a hub for transportation, so there is a real need for freight handlers in the state. If you are considering this job, you'll need to be physically fit, and you'll probably find yourself working in a wide range of weather conditions. Many Alaskans in this field say they like being able to move around on their jobs, so if you don't like to sit in one spot all day, this just might be a job you're interested in.

### Here's what Freight Handlers do:

- Use dollies, hand trucks, wheelbarrows, hoists, and cranes to move freight.
- Attach slings to steady loads while they are being moved.
- Guide loads to pallets, trucks, ships, or shelves in warehouses.
- Position containers in the correct spot to receive items.
- Brace loads to prevent shifting during transport.
- Install braces, pads, and straps to secure loads.
- Direct the spouts that transfer liquid items to new containers.
- Shovel some items, such as ice or gravel, into containers.
- Operate banding machines to band materials together.
- Maintain equipment by adjusting and replacing rollers, belts, plugs, and caps.
- Assemble and take apart containers and crates.
- Read work orders or listen to instructions.
- Keep records of what they move, using paper or hand-held computers.
- Monitor items by putting identification tags on loaded containers or marking them.
- Freight handlers who load and unload ships are called stevedores or longshoremen. Freight handlers also include furniture movers and baggage and cargo handlers.

### How much money can I make?

**Median Wage: \$13.26 per hour.**

In Alaska, the median wage for freight handlers is \$2,298 per month (\$13.26 per hour). Half of all freight handlers earn between \$1,896 and \$2,844 per month (\$10.94 and \$16.41 per hour). Nationally, the median wage is \$1,718 per month (\$9.91 per hour). Freight handlers often receive extra pay for working with difficult or dangerous cargo. Handlers who belong to a union often receive higher wages than non-union workers. Freight handlers who work full time usually receive benefits such as sick leave, paid vacation, and health insurance. Some employers also provide a retirement plan.

## HELPFUL HIGH SCHOOL COURSES

Although a high school degree is usually not required to work as a freight handler, it is important that you receive one to keep your career options open. Below is a list of high school courses that will help prepare you. You don't have to take all of them, but you should consider them in planning for high school. Some of these courses are also available at the technical or college level.

### **Business**

Recordkeeping

### **Computer and Information Sciences**

Basic Computer

### **Energy, Power, and Transportation Technologies**

Introduction to Mechanics

Energy and Power

### **English Language and Literature**

English and Language Arts

Reading

### **Health and Safety Education**

Safety and First Aid

Drivers' Education

### **Industrial and Technology Education**

Exploration of Careers

General Industrial Arts

Materials and Processes

Industrial Safety and First Aid

Equipment Maintenance and Repair

Industrial and Technology Education

### **Marketing**

Warehouse Operations

### **Mathematics**

General Math, Applied Math

### **Physical Education**

Physical Education

Fitness and Conditioning Activities

Weight Training

## How long does it take to receive training?

To work as a freight handler, you need excellent physical health and stamina, on-the-job training; and little or no experience. You don't need formal training to work in this field however, a good way to train for this job is to complete an apprenticeship. Formal apprenticeship programs include a combination of training on the job and classroom training. Apprenticeships in Alaska are sponsored by employers, employer associations, and some are jointly sponsored by employers and unions. Most freight handlers learn their skills on the job by beginning as helpers. Military experience loading ships, trucks, or cargo planes is good background for these jobs.

## When I'm ready to work, will there be job openings?

In Alaska, the outlook for job openings for freight handlers is good to 2014. Average growth is projected. Outlook information is not available specifically for freight handlers, however they are part of the larger group of "freight, stock, and material movers." As long as the economy remains strong, the number of items needing to be moved will continue to grow and cause a demand for freight handlers. However, an increase in automation may limit the growth of this occupation because with automated handling systems, fewer people are needed for manual loading and unloading. If the Alaska gas pipeline comes online, there will be a large need for this occupation.

***Please see the Training Programs section of this booklet to find out more about training in these career fields in Alaska.***



# What's this job all about?

Hazardous material workers help protect people and the environment. These workers remove and dispose of harmful materials like asbestos, chemicals, lead paint, oil, aviation and motor fuels. Hazardous material workers remove these items in a safe and timely fashion so that they do not harm people or the environment.

There are many aspects of hazardous waste removal and varying levels of certification and licensing required by law, depending on the severity of the hazard. In Alaska, hazardous material workers are often the first responders when hazardous materials are released into the environment. Their first job may be to take immediate action to stop the release, then contain the hazardous material to minimize the impact to the environment. Later, they will be called in to clean it up. Mold removal is a growing area of work for hazardous waste removal workers, since mold growth is associated with health problems. Hazardous waste removal workers can and do play a role in oil spill cleanup and spills of chemicals that may occur. They also might deal with hazardous materials on old military and industrial sites, in the petro-chemical, mining, fisheries, healthcare and manufacturing industries. Cleanup of fires in locations like pharmacies or scientific offices, or even residential fuel leaks, may also be part of the job.

### Here's what Hazardous Waste Removal Workers do:

- Remove lead paint by applying chemicals.
- Scrape off hazardous paint and store it in special bags.
- Use brooms, mops, and other tools to clean contaminated areas.
- Remove items that can be cleaned or must be disposed.
- Use radiation survey meters to locate and evaluate contaminated materials.
- Use high-pressure cleaning equipment to wash areas, and also package materials for disposal.
- Build concrete storage boxes.
- Transfer materials from the site to these cement boxes and other storage.
- Transport materials to treatment and disposal sites.
- Drive trucks and forklifts to move materials.
- Organize materials at disposal sites and make sure all items are labeled.

### How much money can I make?

**Median Wage: \$28.69 per hour.**

In Alaska, the median wage for hazardous material workers is \$4,973 per month (\$28.69 per hour). Half of all hazardous material workers earn between \$3,753 and \$6,462 per month (\$21.65 and \$37.28 per hour). The wages vary by region and by the type of material handled. Treatment, storage, and disposal workers earn slightly more than asbestos and lead workers. Hazardous material workers usually receive benefits like paid vacation, sick leave, and health insurance. Some employers also offer a retirement plan.

## HELPFUL HIGH SCHOOL COURSES

If you are interested in this occupation, you should take courses in high school that prepare you to get a high school diploma. Below is a list of high school courses that will help prepare you. While you do not have to take all of them, you should consider them in course planning.

Some of these courses are also available at colleges and technical schools.

### **Construction Trades**

Exploration of Construction Careers

### **Industrial and Technology Education**

General Industrial Arts

Materials and Processes

Industrial Safety and First Aid

### **Life and Physical Sciences**

Biology

Chemistry

Chemistry in the Community

Physics

### **Mathematics**

Integrated Math

General Math

Pre-Algebra, Algebra

Advanced Algebra courses

### **Physical Education**

Physical Education

Fitness and Conditioning Activities

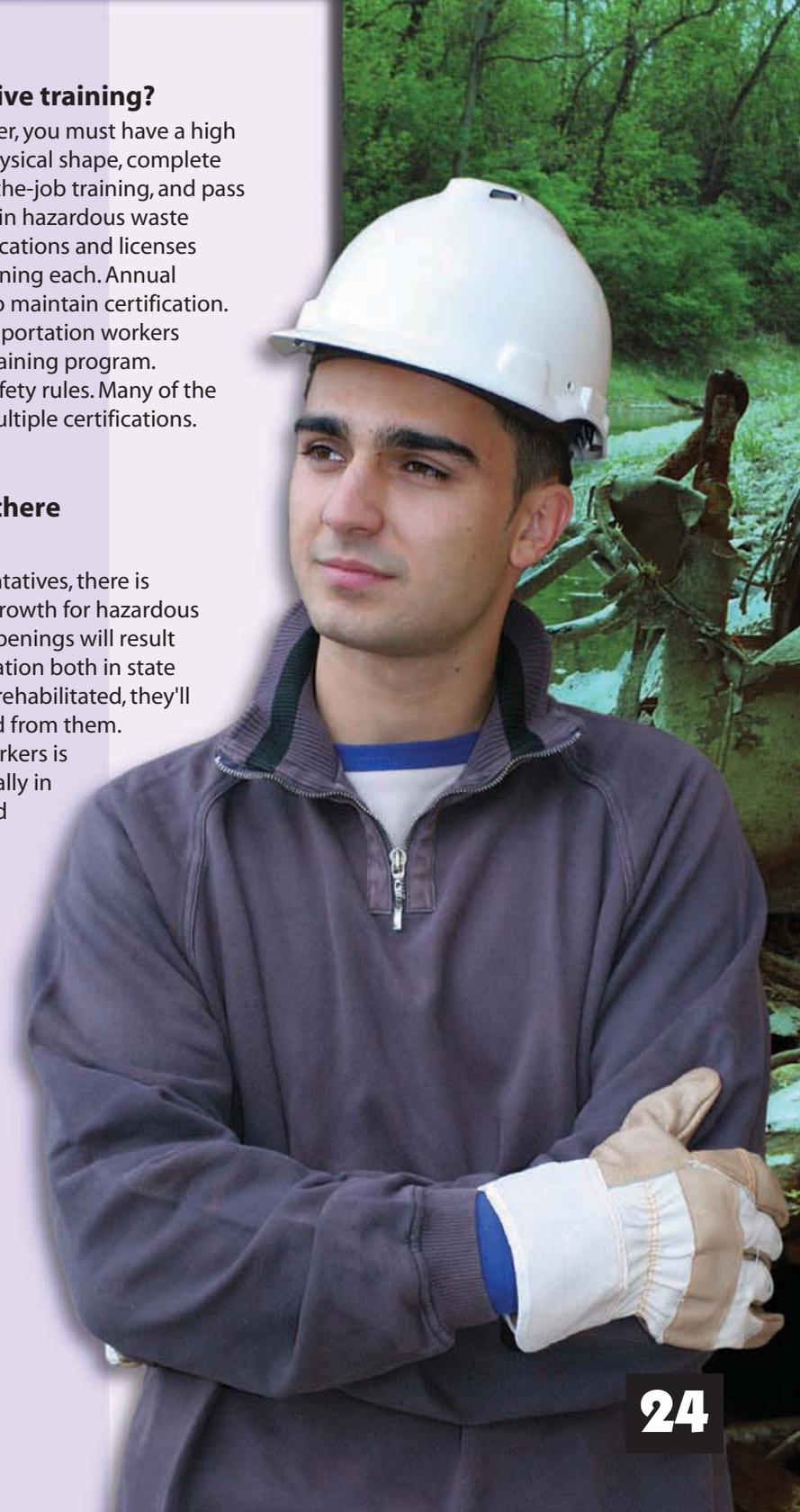
## **How long does it take to receive training?**

To work as a hazardous material worker, you must have a high school diploma or GED, be in good physical shape, complete classroom course work, complete on-the-job training, and pass a federal or state licensing exam. Within hazardous waste operations, there are numerous certifications and licenses which may require 8 – 40 hours of training each. Annual refresher courses are often required to maintain certification. For example, hazardous material transportation workers must complete a 32-40 hour formal training program. These workers also take courses on safety rules. Many of the hazardous material workers obtain multiple certifications.

## **When I'm ready to work, will there be job openings?**

According to Alaska industry representatives, there is indication for a higher than average growth for hazardous material workers through 2014. Job openings will result from the overall growth of this occupation both in state and nationally. As older buildings are rehabilitated, they'll need both lead and asbestos removed from them. A new area for hazardous material workers is the removal of mold. In Alaska, especially in Southeast, mold can be a problem and people are increasingly becoming aware of health problems, such as asthma, that are affected by mold. The need for hazardous material workers is not affected by the economy. These workers will always be needed.

***Please see the Training Programs section of this booklet to find out more about training in these career fields in Alaska.***



# What's this job all about?

Heavy truck drivers drive large trucks or tractor-trailers to transport goods and materials. They have to park their trucks or trailers so they can be loaded easily. This may require following hand signals from coworkers who direct them to the proper location. Once trucks are in the proper spot, drivers load items. They may help wrap large items before they are loaded, or cover the entire load if it is on a flatbed. Truck drivers secure some items with straps, ropes, or chains. Once trucks are loaded, drivers carefully inspect them to insure that they can be driven safely.

On the road, drivers concentrate on their driving and on other drivers in order to prevent accidents. In Alaska, being a heavy truck or tractor-trailer driver can involve long hauls on lonely roads and sometimes dangerous roads. Alaska's winter driving conditions can be hazardous, and driving through mountain passes with a big rig requires skill and caution. If you're interested in this job, you should consider that you might not be spending every night sleeping in your own bed at home as these drivers often have responsibility for long hauls.

### Here's what Heavy Truck Drivers and Tractor-Trailer Drivers do:

- Use two-way radios to contact their supervisors and give updates on their position.
- Keep their trucks filled with gasoline, oil, and other fluids.
- Keep several types of records and fill out forms to prove that goods were picked up and delivered and are being driven safely.
- Keep logs of what items they delivered, how much the items weighed, and when deliveries were made.
- Spend most of their time driving and away from home.
- Could work days, evenings and weekends.

### How much money can I make?

**Median Wage: \$20.81.**

In Alaska, the median wage for heavy truck drivers is \$3,607 per month (\$20.81 per hour). Half of all heavy truck drivers earn between \$3,065 and \$4,304 per month (\$17.68 and \$24.83 per hour). Nationally, the median wage for heavy truck drivers is \$2,857 per month (\$16.48 per hour). Half of all heavy truck drivers earn between \$2,250 and \$3,562 per month (\$12.98 and \$20.55 per hour). Heavy truck drivers who transport goods across long distances are typically paid by the mile. The rate per mile varies greatly, depending on the employer and the type of cargo. Those who drive larger trucks typically earn higher wages. Heavy truck drivers who work full time often receive benefits such as health insurance, sick leave, and paid vacation. Truck drivers who are self-employed must provide their own insurance.

### How long does it take to receive training?

To work as a heavy truck driver, you must have a high school diploma or GED, be at least 18 years old (for in-state driving) or 21 years old (for driving across state borders), be in good health, and have a commercial driver's license (CDL). Most new drivers learn through formal programs. Many private and public vocational schools offer tractor-trailer driver training programs. These programs typically award a certificate or

## HELPFUL HIGH SCHOOL COURSES

A high school degree is almost always required to work as a heavy truck driver or tractor-trailer driver. You should take courses in high school that prepare you to earn a high school diploma. Here is a list of high school courses that will help prepare you. Some of these courses are also available at the technical or college level.

### **Business**

- Keyboarding/Word Processing
- Recordkeeping
- Accounting
- Introduction to Business
- Business Management

### **Computer and Information Sciences**

- Basic Computer
- General Computer Applications

### **Energy, Power, and Transportation Technologies**

- Introduction to Mechanics
- Diesel Mechanics and Repair

### **English Language and Literature**

- English and Language Arts
- English Grammar

### **Health and Safety Education**

- Safety and First Aid
- Drivers' Education

### **Mathematics**

- General Math/Consumer Math
- Applied Math
- Business Math

### **Physical Education**

- Fitness and Conditioning Activities
- Weight Training
- Lifetime Fitness Education

### **Social Sciences and History**

- Geography
- Business Law

*Since many heavy truck drivers are self-employed, you may find it useful to take business management, accounting, and computer courses.*

diploma and last less than one year. Completing these programs should help you get a job as a trainee. This often is a requirement for a commercial driver's license. These programs usually take a few months to complete. The Teamsters' Union has an apprenticeship program that requires a minimum of 2400 hours of on-the-job training and classroom training. Apprentices earn while they learn. Operating equipment or driving light trucks is good background for this occupation. Some drivers begin as assistants. They drive part of the time and help the driver load and unload cargo. Once hired, you usually work with an experienced driver for a short time. You may receive training in special cargo, such as hazardous materials. Military experience driving heavy trucks is good background for this occupation.

### **When I'm ready to work, will there be job openings?**

In Alaska, the outlook for job openings for heavy truck drivers is excellent to 2014. Average growth is projected due to growth in the occupation. If a gas pipeline is built there will be a heavy demand for drivers. Nationally, the number of jobs for heavy truck drivers is expected to grow as fast as average through the year 2014. The growth of the economy and the amount of freight that needs to be transported determine the demand for drivers. When the economy is strong, people buy more and truck drivers are needed to transport products. Many openings will occur as experienced drivers move to other fields of work or retire. However, competition will be strong for the jobs with the best wages and working conditions.

***Please see the Training Programs section of this booklet to find out more about training in these career fields in Alaska.***

