

# HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATIONS

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## Overview

**Degrees Offered:** AAS

**Limited Enrollment:** Yes

**Program Begins:** Fall

**Delivery Method:** On Campus

**Phone:** 701-224-2429

**Email:** bsc.cet@bismarckstate.edu

## Description

The Heavy Equipment Operations Program is an industry-led program designed to prepare students to enter the construction industry as heavy equipment operators. Students will be introduced to various pieces of equipment, including (but not limited to): dozers, backhoes, graders, excavators, skid steers, etc. Students will learn the essential operation of these pieces of equipment, including start-up and shutdown procedures, controls, uses, and basic maintenance techniques. Students will also be introduced to other valuable skills for a job site, including basics surrounding safety, hand tools, first aid, and primary work-site considerations. Admission occurs in the Fall. Students are encouraged to apply early as openings are limited.

## Preparation

Students should be comfortable with manual labor and working outdoors. Basic math skills will be required. Familiarity with essential tools and pieces of equipment may be beneficial.

Prospective students should be prepared for the physical demands of entry-level technician positions. Typical industry requirements include passing a physical exam, which may entail lifting 50+ pounds, climbing ladders, and working in confined spaces or heights. Job applicants may also be required to pass a drug screen and eye exam, including accurately distinguishing colors.

## Requirements

Students who complete the curriculum requirements receive an Associate in Applied Science degree.

## Career Opportunities

Heavy Equipment Operators are valuable members of the construction industry and are needed in various work projects including new home construction and renovation, commercial projects, infrastructure improvement and maintenance, etc. Expansion in the Bismarck/Mandan area and other areas throughout the nation ensures there will always be a need for people with this skill set.

## Degree Plans

- Heavy Equipment Operations Associate in Applied Science