

# **HOISTING LICENSE**

The Massachusetts Department of Public Safety licenses and regulates the operation of hoisting equipment.

Anyone who wishes to operate hoisting equipment (including derricks, cableways, machinery used for discharging cargoes, and temporary elevator cars used on excavation work or used for hoisting building material) must obtain a license from the Department.

**Hoisting operators must be 18 years of age**, complete an application, and successfully pass an examination covering all working parts of the hoisting machinery, safe operating practices, hand signals, and inspection procedures in order to obtain a license.

## **Who must possess a hoisting license?**

M.G.L. c. 146 § 53 states that anyone who will operate derricks, cableways, machinery used for discharging Cargoes, and temporary elevator cars used on excavation work or used for hoisting building material, when the motive power to operate such machinery is mechanical and other than steam, including but not limited to excavators, backhoes, front end loaders, unloaders, skid loader, skid steer loaders, compact loaders or similar devices, lattice cranes, derricks, cranes with or without wire rope; all Fork Lifts, powered industrial lift trucks, overhead hoists (underhung), overhead cranes, underhung cranes, monorail cranes, lifting devices, cableways, and powered platforms, must hold a license from the Department.

*Positions within our Department of Public Services and Department of Public Utilities often require a hoisting license with certain endorsements.*

## **What is on the hoisting operator examination?**

The exam tests practical knowledge of all working parts of the Hoisting Machinery, safe operating practices, safety inspection of the equipment, hand signals, and the Massachusetts State Statutes and Regulations. You should have a thorough knowledge of Massachusetts General Laws, c.146, §§ 53-55, and §§ 64-67. You should also have a thorough knowledge of the Massachusetts Regulations 520 CMR 6.00 for Hoisting Machinery. The regulations are printable from the Public Safety website: [www.mass.gov/dps](http://www.mass.gov/dps). You may also obtain a copy of the laws and regulations at your local library, or at the State House Bookstore. For more information, call (617) 727-2834. Crane operators should also know the ANSI/ASME B30.5-2011 Crane Hand Signals. Excavator and backhoe operators should also know the SAE J1307-2002 Excavator and Backhoe Hand Signals.

## **Are there any study aids available for the hoisting operator examination?**

Yes. The Department of Public Safety suggests that applicants review the following information:

1. OSHA Regulations (website: [www.osha.gov](http://www.osha.gov) )
2. Dig Safe (website: [www.digsafe.com](http://www.digsafe.com); telephone: 1-888-dig-safe (344-7233)
3. Owner's Manuals and/or Safety Manuals (website: [www.aem.org](http://www.aem.org) or [www.jjkeller.com](http://www.jjkeller.com))
4. Application for D.O.T. Physical (can be downloaded from our website at [www.mass.gov/dps](http://www.mass.gov/dps))

## **What must I do to get licensed as a hoisting operator?**

1. First, you must possess a valid and current driver's license to operate Hoisting Machinery.
2. Complete and send to the Department the following:
  - a. A completed Hoisting License application available through the Department's website at <http://www.mass.gov/dps>.
  - b. One legible copy of your valid driver's license.
  - c. One 2" x 2" photograph of yourself or permission to gain access to the Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles database if applicant is a resident of Massachusetts. The photo should be a head, or head and shoulders shot. Access to the Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles database can be granted via the hoisting machinery license application.
  - d. A copy of your D.O.T. Medical Certificate OR ANSI/ASME B30.5-2011 qualifications for operators. A D.O.T. Medical Certificate can be attained by having your physician complete a Medical Examiner's Form, available at <http://www.mass.gov/dps/applicat.htm>. This is a 4 page form on your health.
3. Send a check or money order for \$75.00 made out the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. This is a non-refundable fee.
4. You must pass an examination issued by this Department.

More information can be found on the State's Department of Public Safety website:

<http://www.mass.gov/eopss/consumer-prot-and-bus-lic/license-type/hoisting/>