

## **2018 Crane Operators License Testing - Frequently Asked Questions**

### **1) What are the minimum requirements to obtain a Crane Operators License?**

A: The applicant must be at least 21 years old and must have worked as a crane operator for at least 2,000 hours during the preceding 48 months; or must have completed an apprenticeship program that is recognized by the Board of Crane Operators Examiners. As of December 9, 2018, an applicant also needs to show proof of having a National Crane Certification before the applicant can sit for a written or practical exam.

### **2) When will the new amended crane ordinance go into effect?**

A: The final rules and regulations went into effect March 1, 2016, but portions of the ordinance, including reporting of accidents or safety issues to the City of Chicago, were already in effect upon ordinance passage. Additionally, current rules require that if any safety device or operational aid is not working properly, the crane will be shut down until it is restored to proper working order. Also, as of December 9, 2018, a person must have a National Certification along with a City of Chicago Crane License in order to operate a crane.

### **3) I already have a City of Chicago crane license, do I need to retake the written or practical test?**

A: No. You are not required to be tested again if you are already licensed by the City of Chicago. However, if you want to add more equipment to your license, you must take the practical test for that specific piece of equipment. Please see Classification Chart.

### **4) What are the penalties for failing to be licensed?**

A: Fines for failing to be licensed start at \$1,000 and can be as high as \$10,000 for each violation to the crane operator. Fines ranging from \$2,000 and \$30,000 per violation may also be levied against the crane owner, general contractor and/or sub-contractor.

### **5) When and how can I sign up for the written portion of the exam?**

A: You may apply online for upcoming written exam dates. Please visit Continental Testing Services (CTS.) [www.continentaltestinginc.com](http://www.continentaltestinginc.com)

### **6) Where can I find out more about the written exam including what I need to study?**

A: There is a full study guide to prepare for the written exam on the Department of Buildings website. Please click [here](#) to access the study guide.

**7) I already have a national certification; do I still need to take this test?**

A: Yes. Even if you are Nationally Certified, you must still have a City of Chicago crane license to operator a crane in the City of Chicago.

**8) What are the new requirements of the Crane ordinance?**

A: The ordinance has new licensing requirements for crane operators for equipment with a lifting capacity of 2,000 pounds and over. Please click here for a full list of Class I and Class II equipment.

**9) How soon can I take the practical exam, once I've passed the written exam?**

A: The testing agency, [Continental Testing Services \(CTS\)](#), will send your exam results via US mail along with details and contact information to schedule the practical exam. In most cases, applicants receive notice of exam results within 10 business days.

**10) Can I bring my own construction equipment for the practical exam?**

A: Yes. You may bring your own equipment to take the practical test if it meets all safety requirements, including having a current certificate of inspection and valid proof of insurance. The testing agency will have multiple pieces of machinery available for candidates to use for testing and you are not required to bring any equipment. Please make sure to wear all the proper safety gear, as you would on any construction site.