
CITY OF CHICAGO

RULES



CRANE OPERATORS' LICENSES

LAST UPDATED 10/22/2015



Mayor Rahm Emanuel

Commissioner Judy Frydland

BY AUTHORITY VESTED IN THE COMMISSIONER OF BUILDINGS PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 2-22-040(4) AND CHAPTER 4-288 AND THE GENERAL PROVISIONS OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF CHICAGO, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE BOARD OF CRANE OPERATOR EXAMINERS, THE FOLLOWING RULES REGARDING CRANE OPERATOR LICENSES ARE ADOPTED HEREIN.

By Order of the Commissioner:

Signed: 
Commissioner Judith Frydland

Date: 10/9/15

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RULES FOR CRANE OPERATOR LICENSES

ARTICLE I - DEFINITIONS

Rule No. 1. As used in these rules, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

"Apprentice" or "Apprentice Crane Operator" has the meaning ascribed to the term in Section 4-288-020 of the Municipal Code of Chicago.

"Board" or "Board of Crane Operator Examiners" means the board of crane operators examiners established pursuant to Section 2-116-250 of the Municipal Code of Chicago.

"Chicago Building Code" or "building code" has the meaning ascribed to the term in Section 1-4-090 of the Municipal Code of Chicago.

"Classification" or "class" means the classification or class level assigned to a particular crane in Rule No. 3 of these Rules.

"Code" or "Municipal Code" has the meaning ascribed to the term in Section 1-4-090 of the Municipal Code of Chicago.

"Commissioner" means the commissioner of buildings or his or her designee.

"Crane" has the meaning ascribed to the term in Section 4-288-020 of the Municipal Code of Chicago.

"Department" means the department of buildings.

"False Statements" shall have the interpretation ascribed to the term in Chapter 1-21 of the Municipal Code of Chicago.

"Licensee" has the meaning ascribed to the term in Section 4-288-020 of the Municipal Code of Chicago.

"License Type" means the license designation assigned to a particular crane in Rule No. 3 of these Rules.

"Practical examination" has the meaning ascribed to the term in Section 4-288-020 of the Municipal Code of Chicago.

"Written examination" has the meaning ascribed to the term in Section 4-288-020 of the Municipal Code of Chicago.

ARTICLE II – LICENSING AND TESTING

Rule No. 2. The following classifications, written examination requirements, practical examination requirements and license types for cranes are hereby established:

Crane	Class	Written Test Required	Practical Test Required	License Type
Tower Crane - Hammerhead	I	Yes	Yes	A-1
Tower Crane - Luffing Boom	I	Yes	Yes	A-2
Tower Crane - Self-Erecting	I	Yes	Yes	A-3
Friction Crawler Crane or Friction Truck Crane	I	Yes	Yes	B-1, B-2, B-3 and B-4
Hydraulic Crawler Crane or Hydraulic Truck Crane with a lattice boom	I	Yes	Yes	C-1, C-2, C3 and C-4
Hydraulic Mobile Crane: rough-terrain or all-terrain	I	Yes	Yes	D-1, D-2, D3 and D4
Mobile Crane: boom truck	I	Yes	Yes	E-1, E-2, E-3 and E-4
Industrial Crane or Carry Deck Crane	I	Yes	Yes	F
Spider Crane	I	Yes	Yes	G
Chicago Boom, Drumhoist or Derrick	I	Yes	Yes	H
Rack & Pinion Skips	I	Yes	Yes	I
Other Class I Cranes	I	Yes	Yes	J
Articulating Crane, Knuckle-Boom Crane or Mobile Crane: knuckle-boom truck	II	Yes	Yes	AA
Multi-Purpose Machine with a hoisting device	II	Yes	Yes	BB
All-Terrain Forklift with a hook or winch	II	Yes	Yes	CC
Power Operated Floor or Deck-Type Crane	II	Yes	Yes	DD
Overhead Crane	II	Yes	Yes	EE
Gantry Crane or Crane on a Monorail	II	Yes	No	FF
Boom attached to Mast-Climbing Work Platform	II	Yes	No	GG
Power Window Washing Unit when used to erect	II	Yes	No	HH
Track Backhoe used for erecting	II	Yes	Yes	II
Service/Mechanic Truck with a hoisting device	II	Yes	Yes	JJ
Other Class II Cranes	II	Yes	case by case	KK

Any crane set on a floatation device, locomotive rail device, wheel mounted device, pedestal device, or portal device shall have the appropriate class, license and testing requirements for the underlying crane type identified above.

For License Types B, C, D and E, the numerical designations of 1, 2, 3 and 4 shall mean:

1	Operation of a boom length of up to 100 feet in length.
2	Operation of a boom length of 101 feet to 150 feet in length.
3	Operation of a boom length of 151 feet to 189 feet in length.
4	Operation of a boom length of 190 feet or greater in length.

For License Types B, C, D and E, a person with a higher numerical designation need not obtain a separate license for a lower numerical designation the numerical within the respective License Type B, C, D or E.

For License Type KK the need for a practical exam shall be on a case by case basis for the equipment in question as determined by the commissioner.

Rule No. 3. The fee for each and every specific required written examination shall be One Hundred and Fifty Dollars (\$150.00). The written examination shall be categorized by crane classification or class as identified in Rule No. 3. The fee to retake a failed written examination shall be One Hundred and Fifty Dollars (\$150.00) per attempt. The passage of a Class I written exam shall allow the application to apply for the practical exam for any Class I or Class II license types. The passage of a Class II written exam shall allow the applicant to apply for the practical exam of any Class II license types.

Rule No. 4. The fee for each and every specific required practical examination shall be Two Hundred and Fifty Dollars (\$250.00). The practical examination shall be categorized by the individual license type as identified in Rule No. 3. A separate fee is required for each license type. The initial fee shall be valid for two attempts on the same license type within the same day. The two attempts on the same license type within the same day shall apply only to the initial fee and not to any subsequent attempts nor shall the fee or second attempt be transferable to a practical exam on another license type. The subsequent fee to retake a failed practical examination shall be Two Hundred and Fifty Dollars (\$250.00) per attempt.

ARTICLE III – POTENTIAL PENALITIES FOR FALSE STATEMENTS

Rule No. 5. The commissioner may refuse to accept an application for a license or an application for a permit which was found to contain a false statement.

Rule No. 6. The commissioner may void or revoke any permit that was issued in reliance on a false statement or which have been forged or altered by an applicant.

Rule No. 7. Nothing in this Article III shall limit or prohibit the department from voiding or revoking any permit issued or from pursuing any other sanctions or remedies under any other authority granted to the department under law.

ARTICLE IV – LICENSE NONRENEWAL, SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION

Rule No. 8. The following shall apply to a public hearing by the board of crane operator examiners regarding the revocation, suspension or refusal to renew the license of a crane operator or the permit of an apprentice:

- (1) The board shall provide written notice of the hearing date, time and location to the licensee or apprentice. The licensee or apprentice may be represented by an attorney at that hearing at their sole cost.
- (2) At the hearing, the formal or technical rules of evidence shall not apply. Any evidence on which a reasonably prudent person would rely may be considered at such hearing.
- (3) The licensee or apprentice and the department shall have the opportunity to present evidence and offer argument.
- (4) The board may take the evidence and argument under advisement and then provide a non-binding recommendation to the commissioner regarding the revocation, suspension or refusal to renew the license of a crane operator or the permit of an apprentice.

Rule No. 9. Based upon the evidence contained in the record of the hearing and the non-binding recommendation of the board, the commissioner, by the preponderance of the evidence, shall have the final authority to determine whether to order the revocation, suspension or refusal to renew the license of a crane operator or the permit of an apprentice. A written copy of the commissioner's final order shall be provided to the licensee or apprentice or their attorney of record.

Rule No. 10. A final order of the commissioner within the meaning of Rule No. 10 may be appealed to a court of competent jurisdiction as provided by law.

ARTICLE V – GENERAL PROVISIONS

Rule No. 11. Penalties for violations of these rules shall be as provided in the Municipal Code of Chicago.

Rule No. 12. Nothing in these Rules is intended to limit the powers or authority of the City of Chicago or the powers authority of other City departments to regulate cranes or crane licenses; nor are these Rules intended to relieve a person or entity from full compliance with other provisions of the Municipal Code of Chicago or other rules and regulations promulgated by the department or any other City department.

Rule No. 13. The Commissioner reserves the right to suspend, repeal or amend these Rules at any time in accordance with law.

Rule No. 14. The provisions of these Rules are severable. If any part of these Rules, in whole or in part, is declared invalid or unconstitutional, that declaration shall not affect the part or parts which remains.