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## **601/5841/4 City & Guilds Level 2 NVQ Certificate in Plant Operations (Construction)**

### OVERVIEW

This is a work-based learning qualification that enables you to work as a plant operator in the construction industry. As a plant operator, you will operate plant machinery to transfer loads, excavate, lift and move materials to given specifications.

You will also learn how to work safely as part of a team and will learn how to prepare and operate different types of plant equipment/machinery depending on which pathway you choose to take. For example, you may wish to specialise in areas such as cranes and specialist lifting, road/rail, attachments, transporting loads, work platforms, compacting, excavating, sweeping, cleaning or clearing and processing. The Certificate and Diploma are differentiated by the size, complexity and safety issues surrounding a piece of machinery.

### ABOUT THIS QUALIFICATION

This qualification develops competency in working as a plant operator. You will learn how to conform to general health, safety and welfare in the workplace and how to conform to productive working practices in the workplace. Depending on the pathway chosen, you will learn how to prepare and operate different types of plant equipment/machinery. There are several different pathways within this qualification and they include cranes and specialist lifting, road/rail, attachments, transporting loads, work platforms, compacting, excavating, sweeping, cleaning and clearing and processing.

All the units in the qualification relate to the skills and knowledge required to become a plant operator, and each pathway allows you to specialise in the area you require to become qualified in, ensuring you are competent to undertake the job role.

You must complete all required mandatory units and the required number of optional units for each pathway. These differ for each pathway. These can be found within our handbook, link below.

[http://cdn.cityandguilds.com/ProductDocuments/Construction/Construction/6561/6561\\_Level\\_2/Centre\\_documents/6561\\_L2\\_C\\_D\\_Qualification\\_handbook\\_v2.pdf](http://cdn.cityandguilds.com/ProductDocuments/Construction/Construction/6561/6561_Level_2/Centre_documents/6561_L2_C_D_Qualification_handbook_v2.pdf)

There are no entry requirements for this qualification – anyone over the age of 16 that is seeking to demonstrate competence working in the plant operations sector can take this qualification. However you are likely to hold other qualifications that you have studied full-time at college, such as the Level 2 Certificate in Plant Operations or have significant experience working within the construction industry.

### WHY TAKE THIS QUALIFICATION?

There are two qualifications available to take in plant operations:  
Level 2 NVQ Certificate in Plant Operations (Construction)  
Level 2 NVQ Diploma in Plant Operations (Construction)



Whether you take the certificate or diploma is determined by the category of plant equipment that is selected to achieve competence in. The Certificate and Diploma are differentiated by the size, complexity and safety issues surrounding a piece of machinery. You will study the Certificate if your job role requires you to operate one of the following pieces of machinery:

- Pedestrian Operated Tower Cranes
- Hoists
- Lorry Loaders and Knuckle Boom Cranes
- Skip Handlers
- Telescopic Handlers
- Reach Trucks
- Wheeled Loading Shovels
- Skidsteer Loaders
- Forward Tipping Dumpers
- Rear Tipping Dumpers
- Agricultural-based Tractors
- Trailer Mounted Concrete Pumps
- Mobile Elevating Work Platform (MEWP) – Scissor Lift
- Mobile Elevating Work Platform (MEWP) – Boom

You will take this Level 2 NVQ qualification if you are currently employed or have previously been employed as a plant operator, and wish to demonstrate your ability to work safely and competently to a recognised national standard. You might also have experience or qualifications in construction and know you want to specialise in plant operations: the NVQ route provides flexibility in ways to demonstrate your practical skills and knowledge and have them assessed and recognised.

This qualification is also available as part of an Apprenticeship Framework. You will take this qualification as part of an Apprenticeship if you are new to the construction industry. In the apprenticeship you will also need to undertake an additional knowledge-based qualification as well as be assessed in functional skills in maths and English.

#### WHAT COULD THIS QUALIFICATION LEAD TO?

This qualification prepares you for work in the construction industry, with a specific focus on plant operations. Upon completion you can apply to CSCS, or other industry card schemes, to gain a recognised skills card.

If you wish to progress to become a supervisor working on site, you may wish to study any of the following qualifications:

- 601/1486/1 Level 3 NVQ Diploma in Occupational Work Supervision (Construction)
- 601/1899/4 Level 4 NVQ Diploma in Construction Site Supervision (Construction)
- 601/1792/8 Level 6 NVQ Diploma in Construction Site Management (Construction)

#### WHO SUPPORTS THIS QUALIFICATION?

This qualification is widely supported in the construction sector. We are grateful to have specific support from the Construction Plant-Hire Association for the Level 2 NVQ Certificate in Plant Operations (Construction).