

AERIAL LIFT OPERATOR RESIDENTIAL/COMMERCIAL TREE CARE

JOB DESCRIPTION

The primary duty of aerial lift operators is pruning and removing trees. Occasionally aerial lift operators will install tree support systems. An aerial lift operator must be proficient with a chain saw and tree removal equipment and techniques.

TYPICAL BACKGROUND

Most aerial lift operators are former groundworkers and may also have climbing experience.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Commercial Drivers License is required



EDUCATION/TRAINING NEEDS

- General work site safety and hazard recognition
- Aerial lift operation training
- Vehicle safety, safe operation, and driving
- Selection and use of appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- Back injury prevention
- Understanding work orders and plans
- Job briefings
- Emergency procedures
- Electrical hazards training
- Chipper use and safety
- Basic knots and rope use
- Basic knots and rope operation for rigging
- Proper equipment use and maintenance
- Advanced chain saw use and felling techniques
- Pruning principles and techniques
- Cabling and bracing (and lightning protection)
- Tree identification
- Basic tree biology
- Beginning diagnostic training

EDUCATION TRAINING MATERIALS

- NAA/ISA Video Training Series and Workbook: *Basic Training for Ground Operations in Tree Care*
- ISA ArborMaster Video Series and Workbook: *Chain Saw Use and Safety*
- NAA Video *Back Injury Prevention*
- ISA ArborMaster Video Series and Book: *The Art and Science of Practical Rigging*
- *ISA Tree Climbers' Guide*
- ANSI Z133.1 Safety Standards
- ANSI A300 Pruning
- ANSI A300 Cabling and Bracing
- NAA Video set *Rigging for Removal*
- NAA Video *Ropes, Knots, and Climbing*
- NAA Tailgate Safety Program
- Electrical Hazards Awareness Program
- Best Management Practice: Pruning
- Best Management Practice: Tree Support Systems
- *ISA Arborists' Certification Study Guide*

CERTIFICATIONS/LICENSES

Commercial Drivers License required
ISA Arborist Certification recommended

TYPICAL FUTURE CAREER PATHS

Foreperson/Supervisor