

## SANITARY LANDFILL OPERATOR

**Certifying Authority** Elonda Bacon  
Operator Certification  
Iowa Department of Natural Resources  
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**Legal Authority** Code of Iowa 455B

**Job Description** Sanitary landfill operators control processes and equipment to dispose by burial municipal, non-hazardous industrial and construction/demolition wastes in permitted sanitary landfills. They maintain and operate compactors, bulldozers, earth movers, cranes, scales and other equipment necessary for the proper functioning of a sanitary landfill; maintain landfill operation records including, but not limited to, ground water quality monitoring results, leachate control system sample results, tonnages accepted, tonnages diverted to alternate solid waste processes, fees paid and quantities disposed via Special Waste Authorization; collect samples from ground water quality and leachate control system monitoring, inspect incoming loads periodically and randomly, reject improperly transported or otherwise prohibited loads and wastes; and, supervise subordinate persons in all of the above functions.

**Education & Experience Required** An applicant must have completed a basic training course approved by the Department of Natural Resources. The required basic training course must be pre-approved and have at least 25 contact hours. At a minimum, the course will address the following:

- 1) Description of types of wastes
- 2) Interpreting and using engineering plans
- 3) Construction surveying techniques
- 4) Waste decomposition processes
- 5) Geology and hydrology
- 6) Landfill design
- 7) Landfill operation
- 8) Environmental monitoring
- 9) Applicable laws and regulations
- 10) Permitting processes, and
- 11) Leachate control and treatment

Prior on-the-job experience is not required. Iowa will consider reciprocity concerning applicants from other states.

**Continuing Education** Ten contact hours of continuing education must be earned during a two-year period for certification renewal.

**Examination** A written examination is required and is offered at various locations throughout the state during the year. Specific information concerning dates and locations of tests can be obtained by contacting the License Bureau of the Iowa Department of Natural Resources.

**Fees** Application: None  
Duration: Two years  
Renewal: \$24  
Exam: \$20  
Other: \$32 – (maximum) certificate fee. The certificate fee is prorated twice yearly up to the first renewal period.

**SOC Code, Title & Avg. Hourly Wage** 47-2073 – Operating Engineers and Other Construction Equipment Operators (\$15.08)

**Number of Licenses Issued** Total number of certificates active as of March 20,  
2002: 337  
... as of December 31,  
2000: 344