

**MICHIGAN CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION  
JOB SPECIFICATION**

**BRIDGE OPERATOR**

**JOB DESCRIPTION**

Employees in this job operate and perform minor maintenance on electrical machinery and other equipment used to open and close bridges over waterways.

There are four classifications in this job.

**Position Code Title – Bridge Operator-E**

Bridge Operator 6

This is the entry level. The employee, under close supervision, receives on-the-job training in the operation and maintenance of electrically operated bridges.

Bridge Operator 7

This is the intermediate level. The employee performs assigned duties in a developing capacity under general supervision.

Bridge Operator E8

This is the experienced level. The employee performs a full range of bridge operator activities, and uses independent judgment to make decisions requiring the application of procedures and practices to specific work situations.

**Position Code Title – Bridge Operator-A**

Bridge Operator 9

This is the advanced level. The employee functions as a lead worker and oversees the work of lower-level Bridge Operators and others in the performance of bridge operations and oversight.

**NOTE:** Employees generally progress through this series to the experienced level based on satisfactory performance and possession of the required experience.

**JOB DUTIES**

**NOTE:** The job duties listed are typical examples of the work performed by positions in this job classification. Not all duties assigned to every position are included, nor is it expected that all positions will be assigned every duty.

Observes approaching vessels, listens for whistle signal from vessel indicating the desire to pass, and ascertains the rights-of-passage.

## **BRIDGE OPERATOR**

### **PAGE No. 2**

Operates levers that activate traffic and alarm signals, and lowers gates to halt street traffic; or activates interlocking railroad signals to warn oncoming trains of the dangerous hazard.

Activates electrically controlled motors of a bridge that permit it to be raised or turned, giving vessels safe passage through.

Provides for resumption of orderly traffic flow upon the all clear by activating and moving necessary controls and equipment that raise safety barriers and return signals to traffic movement pattern.

Directs traffic on the bridge when necessary.

Records names of vessels and/or the number passing through the waterway and the number of trains or vehicles crossing the bridge.

Maintains federal and state logs and prepares reports related to the work.

Operates a ship-to-shore radio.

Relays messages or signals to vessels in the waterway.

Inspects, cleans, lubricates, and paints bridge and the lifting and operating machinery necessary to the operation of the bridge; also, span guides and sliding surfaces.

Prepares and submits written reports of accidents occurring on, or to, bridge involving vehicles, pedestrians, or boats.

Removes snow and ice from bridge proper and bridge sidewalks using powered equipment and/or by hand; removes spilled gravel and dirt from bridge proper when necessary.

Mows and tends lawns at bridge approach and exit; removes litter from the general area.

Performs related work as assigned.

### **Additional Job Duties**

#### **Bridge Operator 9 (Lead Worker)**

Coordinates the work of the unit by determining priorities, scheduling, assigning, and explaining work, and overseeing the completion of the work.

Assures that the work meets quality and production standards by reviewing the work for accuracy and proper completion and monitoring output.

## **BRIDGE OPERATOR**

**PAGE No. 3**

### **JOB QUALIFICATIONS**

#### **Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities**

**NOTE:** Some knowledge in the area listed is required at the entry level, developing knowledge is required at the intermediate level, considerable knowledge is required at the experienced, and thorough knowledge is required at the advanced level.

Knowledge of the operational and maintenance procedures of electrical and hydraulic controlled machinery used in opening and closing bridges.

Knowledge of inland waterway regulations applicable to the work as prescribed by the U.S. Coast Guard.

Knowledge of appropriate lubricants, paints, and cleaning mixtures used in the maintenance and repair of the bridge.

Knowledge of occupational hazards and safety rules and regulations.

Knowledge of FCC rules and regulations governing restricted radiotelephone operations.

Knowledge of hand and power tools and equipment used to perform maintenance and minor repair activities on horizontal or vertical lift bridges.

Ability to follow verbal instructions.

Ability to read directions on the use of equipment and materials.

#### **Additional Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities**

##### **Bridge Operator 9 (Lead Worker)**

Ability to organize and coordinate the work of the unit.

Ability to explain instructions and guidelines to others effectively.

Ability to determine work priorities and assign work to employees.

#### **Working Conditions**

Some jobs require an employee to work on high structures.

Some jobs require an employee to be exposed to inclement weather conditions.

#### **Physical Requirements**

The job duties require an employee to bend for extended periods.

The job duties require an employee to climb ladders.

**BRIDGE OPERATOR**

**PAGE No. 4**

The job duties require an employee to stand for long periods.

**Education**

Educational level typically acquired through completion of high school.

**Experience**

**Bridge Operator 6**

No specific type or amount is required.

**Bridge Operator 7**

One year of experience in the operation and maintenance of electrically controlled bridges equivalent to a Bridge Operator 6.

**Bridge Operator E8**

Two years of experience in the operation and maintenance of electrically controlled bridges equivalent to a Bridge Operator, including one year equivalent to a Bridge Operator 7.

**Bridge Operator 9**

Three years of experience in the operation and maintenance of electrically controlled bridges equivalent to a Bridge Operator, including one year equivalent to a Bridge Operator E8.

**Special Requirements, Licenses, and Certifications**

Must pass a medical examination to confirm physical fitness to perform the work.

Some positions may require that the employee possess or obtain a Federal Marine Radio Operator Permit.

**NOTE:** Equivalent combinations of education and experience that provide the required knowledge, skills, and abilities will be evaluated on an individual basis.

**JOB CODE, POSITION TITLES AND CODES, AND COMPENSATION INFORMATION**

**Job Code**  
BRIDGEOPR

**Job Code Description**  
Bridge Operator

**Position Title**  
Bridge Operator-E  
Bridge Operator-A

<b><u>Position Code</u></b>	<b><u>Pay Schedule</u></b>
BRDGOPRE	A31-005
BRDGOPRA	A31-011