Chicago Crane Operator Examination Study Guide

This candidate guide should help you prepare for the Chicago Crane Operators licensure examinations. Part I contains general information about testing procedures. Part II describes the content of these examinations and recommends study materials. Part III includes sample questions to help you prepare for the test.

Part I General Information

PURPOSE OF THE EXAMINATIONS

This examination is required for professional licensure of crane operators in the City of Chicago. A Class 1 license is required for operators of Class 1 cranes. A Class 2 license is required for operators of Class 2 cranes. Each candidate must pass the appropriate written test before scheduling a practical examination on the equipment on which they wish to be licensed.

TEST VALIDITY & TEST LENGTH

Each written test is three hours in length. All test questions have been validated meet to strict psychometric controls and have been approved by the Chicago Crane Operators Examining Board.

STUDY MATERIALS

Study materials for this examination are described in Part II of this candidate guide. Each may be purchased directly from the publishers identified in Part II.

MISSING AN EXAMINATION

There are no "make-up" examinations. You may re-register for the next examination date. THERE ARE NO REFUNDS.

WHAT TO BRING TO THE EXAM

Each candidate should bring two (2) sharpened Number 2 black lead pencils and a non-programmable, non-printing, solar- or battery-powered portable or pocket calculator. No power source will be available for calculators at the test site. Candidates will not be permitted to use any books, notes or other reference materials during these examinations.

SUCCESS/LICENSURE

Candidates who score 70 or higher will receive a PASS notice and instructions to schedule the appropriate practical examination(s).

FAILURE

Candidates who score below 70 will receive a FAILURE notice and an application for re-examination. Candidates are encouraged to retake the examination; many candidates who initially fail such an exam pass on subsequent attempts.

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## Class 1 Crane Operators Written Test (65 questions)

1. **Types of Equipment**
   - A. Tower & mobile cranes
   - B. Drum hoists, derricks, etc.
   - C. Spider cranes, carry decks, etc.
   - D. Forklifts, floor cranes, etc.

2. **Operating Practices**
   - A. Set-up
   - B. Power lines
   - C. Ground conditions

3. **Rigging & Signals**
   - A. Wire rope
   - B. Drums
   - C. Slings
   - D. Rigging hardware
   - E. Fiber rope
   - F. Signaling

4. **Inspections & Maintenance**
   - A. Hoisting equipment
   - B. Rope & rigging hardware

5. **Safe Working Loads**
   - A. Wire rope slings
   - B. Chain slings
   - C. Estimating load weights
   - D. Safe load rules
   - E. Capacity limits & deductions

6. **OSHA Regulations & Workplace Safety**
   - A. Crane types/safety
   - B. Rigging equipment
   - C. Power lines
   - D. Equipment safety
   - E. Demolition

7. **Hoisting Personnel Safely**
   - A. Manbasket design requirements
   - B. Operating manbaskets safely
Class 2 Crane Operators Written Test (65 questions)

1. Types of Equipment  
   A. Mobile cranes & boom trucks  
   B. Overhead gantry cranes  
   C. Forklifts, floor cranes, etc.

2. Operating Practices  
   A. Set-up  
   B. Power lines  
   C. Ground conditions

3. Rigging & Signals  
   A. Wire rope  
   B. Drums  
   C. Slings  
   D. Rigging hardware  
   E. Fiber rope  
   F. Signaling

4. Inspections & Maintenance  
   A. Hoisting equipment  
   B. Rope & rigging hardware

5. Safe Working Loads  
   A. Wire rope slings  
   B. Chain slings  
   C. Estimating load weights  
   D. Safe load rules  
   E. Capacity limits & deductions

6. OSHA Regulations & Workplace Safety  
   A. Crane types/safety  
   B. Rigging equipment  
   C. Power lines  
   D. Equipment safety
Recommended Study Materials
for the Chicago Crane Operators Examination

All candidates must respond to test questions that are based on information provided in the following sources. Many publishers will accept telephone orders to be charged to a VISA, Mastercard or American Express account. The Code of Federal Regulations (29 CFR 1910 and 1926) also is available in the Government Documents sections at the main branch of the Chicago Public Library, in some college and university libraries in the Chicago area, and through the Occupational Safety and Health Administration web site on the Internet at http://www.osha.gov.

   
   Publisher: IPT Publishing and Training, Ltd. Phone: (403) 962-4548
   Box 9590, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T6E 5X2

2. *Code of Federal Regulations, Title 29, (OSHA)*
   Part 1910, Subpart N Materials Handling & Storage, Sections 176-184
   Part 1926, Subpart H Rigging Equipment, Section 251
   Part 1926, Subpart N Cranes, Derricks, Hoists, Elevators & Conveyors
   Sections 550-554
   Part 1926, Subpart O Material Handling Equipment, Sections 600 & 602
   Part 1926, Subpart T Demolition, Sections 858 & 859
   Part 1926, Subpart CC Cranes & Derricks in Construction, Sections 1400-1441
   
   Publisher: U.S. Government Printing Office
   Available at http://www.osha-slc.gov

Operating manuals for hoisting equipment and cranes also may help a candidate prepare for this examination.
Part III  Sample Questions

All questions on these examinations are multiple choice with one correct answer and three incorrect choices.  For these sample tests only, answers and references are provided at the end of each sample test to help you prepare for these examinations.

1. Which of the following best describes the minimum requirement for wire anchorage on a hoist drum?
   
   A. At least two wraps when the load block is at its lowest position
   B. At least three wraps when the load block is at its lowest position
   C. At least four wraps when the load block is at its highest position
   D. At least six wraps when the load block is at its highest position

2. Which of the following power line voltages requires maintaining a minimum safe distance of 25 feet?
   
   A. Over 200 to 350 kV
   B. Over 350 to 500 kV
   C. Over 500 to 750 kV
   D. Over 750 to 1000 kV

3. The lowest amount of ground pressure for a mobile crane is exerted when the total weight of the machine is distributed
   
   A. over the entire area.
   B. over one corner.
   C. over the front.
   D. over the side.

4. Which of the following conditions requires that running wire rope used for hoisting with most cranes be removed from service?
   
   A. Four random broken wires in one rope lay or three broken wires in one strand
   B. Three random broken wires in one rope lay or two broken wires in one strand
   C. Twelve random broken wires in one rope lay or four broken wires in one strand
   D. Six random broken wires in one rope lay or three broken wires in one strand
5. Who should be watching the load for mobile cranes working in the blind?
   A. The rigger
   B. The operator
   C. One signalman
   D. Two signalmen

6. When the engine of a mobile crane is running, maintenance personnel must never
   A. be under the machine.
   B. operate the machine.
   C. reposition the crane.
   D. reset the controls.

7. Which of the following most accurately describes wire rope faults?
   A. A protruding core indicates that the rope should be tightly wrapped before reuse.
   B. Bird caging may be caused by sudden release of tension on an overloaded rope.
   C. Fatigue fractures are always visible on the exterior of the wire rope.
   D. Strand nicking typically is caused by scrubbing or localized wear.

8. Cranes using a manbasket or personnel hoisting equipment must have what type of
   blocking equipment?
   A. Timber blocking
   B. A two-block device
   C. An anti-two-block device
   D. Two-block damage prevention

9. How much weight must rotation resistant rigging hardware used with personnel
   hoisting equipment be capable of supporting?
   A. Two times the maximum intended load
   B. Three times the maximum intended load
   C. Five times the maximum intended load
   D. Ten times the maximum intended load
Question 10 refers to the following information for a mobile crane.

<table>
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<th>Boom Length in Feet</th>
<th>Operating Radius in Feet</th>
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Load weights:

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<th>Item</th>
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<td>Headache ball &amp; hook</td>
<td>750 lbs.</td>
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<td>4,550 lbs.</td>
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<td>Slings</td>
<td>660 lbs.</td>
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<td>Main load line below boom jib</td>
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<td>Weight of load</td>
<td>44,750 lbs.</td>
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10. Which statement most accurately describes this load?

A. The total lifted load cannot be hoisted safely with this crane.
B. The maximum operating radius with crawlers extended is 55 feet.
C. The boom and jib with lifting components should not be lowered below 52.5°.
D. The maximum operating radius with no load and crawlers extended is 140 feet.
11. What is the working load limit (WLL) or safe working load (SWL) for rigging hardware on most hoisting jobs?

A. A safety factor of 20:1  
B. A safety factor of 15:1  
C. A safety factor of 10:1  
D. A safety factor of 5:1

12. According to OSHA regulations, where must rigging equipment be stored when it is not in use?

A. Away from the immediate work area to reduce hazards to employees  
B. In the immediate work area to promote easy access when it is needed  
C. In locked storage vehicles on the job site to protect the public from injury  
D. Away from the job site in locked storage vehicles to protect the public from injury

**ANSWER KEY**

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<th>Question</th>
<th>Correct</th>
<th>Answer</th>
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* Load chart calculations for Question 10 result in a total lifted load of 55,385 lbs., which limits the maximum operating radius with crawlers extended to 60 feet. The weight of all components weight is 10,635 lbs., which limits the boom angle to 52.5° and the maximum operating radius with no load and crawlers extended to 150 feet.