

Young and new workers in crane operations

Under B.C.'s Occupational Health and Safety Regulation, a young worker is any worker under the age of 25.

Young and new workers who may be starting a job or starting work for the first time are at a high risk of injury because:

- Lack of orientation, inadequate training, or lack of or inadequate supervision
- Lack of experience
- Lack of preparation for the workplace
- Being exposed to more high risk jobs
- Hesitancy to ask questions

Legal protections in place for young and new workers

In 2021, the B.C. government made changes to the *Employment Standards Act*. The minimum working age was raised from 12 to 16. Effective January 1, 2023, government regulation states that workers under 16 cannot be hired to perform construction work. There are additional restrictions for workers under 18 regarding construction-related hazardous work activity. Employers are required to know and understand these limitations, train their employees on the details, and provide adequate supervision. For detailed information, please visit the B.C. Government website [Employers cannot hire children to perform hazardous work](#).

What about young workers in crane operations?

Working on or around cranes can be hazardous. To be



certified and work on a crane, individuals must meet specific age requirements. Crane operators must be at least 18 years old, as per the SkilledTradesBC apprenticeship system. Additionally, to obtain a mobile crane license and comply with the requirements for a commercial driver's license under the B.C. Motor Vehicle Act, applicants must be at least 19 years old.

Young and new workers are also protected under the OHS Regulation. Employers must:

- Provide them with orientation and training for the job.
- Ensure that they are prepared for the job before they start working.
- Keep records of training and orientation of young workers.

For more information, see WorkSafeBC's [Young & new worker](#) webpage.

OHS Regulation references: sections [3.22](#) to [3.25](#)

Project: Address:

Employer: Supervisor:

Date: Time: Shift:

Number in crew: Number attending:

Other safety concerns or suggestions:

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Record of those attending:

Name: (please print)	Signature:	Company:
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		
5.		
6.		
7.		
8.		
9.		
10.		
11.		
12.		
13.		
14.		
15.		

Manager's remarks:

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Manager:
(Signature)

Supervisor:
(Signature)

For more information on health and safety requirements for crane operations in B.C., refer to the *Workers Compensation Act* and the OHS Regulation on worksafebc.com.