



National Craft Assessment and Certification Program  
S P E C I F I C A T I O N S

**Tower Crane Operator**  
**TOWER48**

August 2015

**Focus Statement**

Tower crane operators will know and implement the rules and regulations set forth by ASME B30.3 and will safely apply those standards in daily operations. Crane operators will read, know and apply all information provided in the manufacturer's operators manual and will be able to interpret load charts, load testing, LMIs and any safety instrumentation of each crane. Crane operators will know machine conditions, operational limitations, and load limitations for situations for which the operator may be involved. The operators will conduct all hoisting operations in a safe manner. Operators will be able to effectively communicate with riggers, signal persons, and other site personnel involved with hoisting operations.

**Overview**

- Three-hour closed-book examination
- May use a basic function, non-printing calculator
- No extra papers, books, notes or study materials are allowed
- The minimum passing score is 80
- A Practical Examination is available and required to earn a certified credential.

**NCCER Curriculum**

All NCCER knowledge assessments are referenced to NCCER's Tower Crane curriculum. You may order this curriculum from Pearson (800.922.0579) or from NCCER's Online Catalog at [www.nccer.org](http://www.nccer.org).

**Assessment Development**

All questions are developed and approved by subject matter experts under the direction of NCCER.

**Credentials**

Upon successful completion of the certification requirements, NCCER will send applicable credentials to the assessment center.

**Score Report and Training Prescription**

Each candidate will have access to their assessment results including their overall score and recommended training.

**NCCER Registry**

Knowledge assessment results are recorded in NCCER's Registry and become a part of the portable record of an individual's NCCER credentials.

**Knowledge Assessment Contents:**

Content Domain	Number of Questions
Technical	16
Jobsite Evaluation	6
Normal Operations	16
Capacity Charts	25
<b>Total Number of Questions</b>	<b>60</b>

NCCER

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Topic Areas related to Assessment:

<b>Technical</b>	
	Federal, State, and Local Regulations
	Principles of Crane Operations
	General Crane Related Terminology
	Structural Limitations of the Crane, Auxiliary Equipment, and Attachments.
	Wire Rope
	Power Flow Systems
	Rigging and Rigging Hardware
	Load Information
<b>Jobsite Evaluation</b>	
	Ground Stability
	Electrical Hazards
	Matting
<b>Normal Operations</b>	
	Communications and Signaling
	Pre-Operational Inspection and Maintenance
	Proper Crane Set-Up
	Adverse Weather Conditions
	Load Movement
	Multiple Crane Lifts
	Operator Assist Devices, Electric and Manual
	Instruments
	Emergency Response
	Shutdown
	Advanced Operations
<b>Capacity Charts</b>	
	General Capacity Chart Knowledge
	Capacity Chart Components
	Determining Capacity Using Charts