I want to be a...Transit Operator

June 2021



This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under CC BY-SA

What do they do?

Transit operators drive buses, operate streetcars and subway trains to transport passengers on established routes. They are employed mainly by the urban transit systems, but some bus drivers can work for school boards, transportation authorities, and private transportation companies.

How much do they make?

The median wage in Canada is about \$22.00 per hour.

Some transit companies offer competitive wages and benefits; for example, streetcar operator for TTC can make between \$28.97 / hour - \$37.62 / hour, and have benefits such as:

- Healthcare and dental plans
- Group life insurance
- Pension plan
- In-house training and career development programs
- Tuition aid benefit plan

How do I become a Transit Operator, e.g. for Toronto Transit Commission (TTC)?

To work as a transit operator for a public transport agency, such as the Toronto Transit Commission, you are required to have:

- Non-probationary Ontario driver's licence, Class "G", in good standing.
- Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) or its recognized equivalent.
- Minimum 1-2 years of face-to-face customer service experience
- Able to work flexible schedule that includes various shifts (e.g. nights, split shifts, weekends, and holidays)

You can increase your chance of landing a job as a transit operator if you have the following assets / experience:

- Large commercial vehicle driving experience
- Experience with disability accommodation and accessibility requirements
- Professional experience working with persons with disabilities
- Demonstrated ability to communicate effectively and courteously with the public

Useful Links:

Toronto Transit Commission: http://www.ttc.ca/

York Region Transit: https://www.yrt.ca/en/index.aspx

GO Transit: https://www.gotransit.com/

London Transit Commission: https://www.londontransit.ca/

Oakville Transit: https://www.oakvilletransit.ca/