

National Transportation Career Pathways Initiative Transportation Operations Discipline

Overview

The U.S. DOT Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) funded the launch of the Southeast Transportation Workforce Center (SETWC) in concert with four other regional centers that form the National Network for the Transportation Workforce (NNTW). Each center is dedicated to providing a more strategic and efficient approach to 21st century transportation workforce development through research, education, and stakeholder engagement.

The NNTW is undertaking an FHWA-sponsored National Transportation Career Pathways Initiative (NTCPI) to address workforce challenges related to the limited pipeline of potential workers, evolving job requirements due to rapid technology changes, and poor visibility and understanding of transportation career pathways. The initiative focuses on priority occupations in the following five areas: Engineering, Environment, Operations, Planning, and Safety. The NTCPI project includes identification of priority occupations, skill and competency requirements, and available training or education programs followed by development of career pathways and demonstration program plans to address workforce challenges in priority occupations within each focus area. SETWC is leading the NTCPI Operations focus area, and has formed a Discipline Working Group of industry experts to inform the initiative.

Priority Occupations- Operations

The occupations in Table 1 are considered critical within the operations realm and were compiled based upon Bureau of Labor Statistics data and Discipline Working Group expertise. A subset of these occupations will be the focus of the operations NTCPI after feedback from a larger stakeholder group. The goal of the overall project is to provide greater transparency of operations career pathways and related experiential learning to post-secondary students.

Table 1. Critical Transportation Operations Occupations

Traffic	Transit	Freight
Program Managers	Operations Planners	Commercial Drivers
Program Planners	Project Managers	Data Science Analyst / Logisticians
Traffic Signal / Maintenance Technicians	Commercial Drivers	Diesel Mechanics/ Diesel Shop Technicians
Incident Managers	Diesel Mechanics	Industrial Engineers
Field Safety / Service Operators	Industrial Trainer	Operations Research/Modeling Analysts
ITS Technicians	Civil Engineers	Project and Program Managers
Civil Engineers	Environmental Planners	Transportation Planners
		Service Assurance Advisors

For more information about the NTCPI, visit: <http://nntw.org/career-pathways>