

# MILL OPERATIONS

Positions in the Forest Products Industry



## WOOD PROCESSING MACHINE OPERATOR

*sawmill equipment operator, wood processing machine operator*

Machine operators in this unit group operate and tend wood processing equipment and machines to remove bark from logs, produce wood chips, preserve and treat wood, and produce waferboards, particleboards, hardboards, insulation boards, plywood, veneers and similar wood products. They are employed in sawmills, woodrooms of pulp mills, planing mills, wood treatment plants, waferboard plants and other wood processing plants.

### KEY RESPONSIBILITIES



The following is a summary of main duties for some occupations in this unit group:

- Operate and tend kilns, treating tanks and other equipment to dry lumber and other wood products, and to treat chemically and impregnate wood products with preservatives.
- Operate and tend conveyors, lathes, sanding machines and other equipment to peel and slice veneer from logs and log sections, and to glue, press, trim, sand and splice veneer sheets.
- Assemble plywood panels and repair plywood and veneer mechanically or manually.
- Observe equipment, panel indicators, video monitors, and other instruments to detect malfunctions and ensure that processes are operating according to specifications.
- Complete and maintain production reports.
- Operate and tend various wood processing equipment and machines to remove bark, knots and dirt from logs; reduce logs or sawmill waste into wood chips or flakes; stack and band lumber; screen wood chips; and produce waferboards, particleboards, hardboards and insulation boards.
- Start up, shut down, set up, adjust and assist in maintaining processing equipment and machines as required.

### THIS JOB IS RIGHT FOR YOU IF:



- You want to live an oversized life in one of Canada's beautiful forest communities
- A sense of community is important to you
- You like variety and learning new things
- You want to make a difference working in a green job
- You are confident
- You are a team player who gets along with other trades
- You want to work in work boots, not dress shoes

### EDUCATION AND TRAINING



Previous experience as a labourer in wood processing may be required. Completion of secondary school is usually required. Several months of on-the-job training are provided. For lumber kiln operators, particleboard operators and waferboard operators, some combination of college or company courses and up to one year of on-the-job training may be required.

Here is a complete list of Canadian Universities and Colleges:  
[thegreenestworkforce.ca/education](http://thegreenestworkforce.ca/education)

#### Notice

The requirements listed are generally required qualifications for this Career Type. The qualifications may vary based on the employer and/or the geographic location of that job.

### DARE TO COMPARE

See how much time and money you would save by moving to a forest community.

[thegreenestworkforce.ca/compare](http://thegreenestworkforce.ca/compare)

**If you want good pay, opportunities to learn on the job, a great lifestyle and the chance to work in Canada's Greenest Workforce, then the forest products industry is right for you.**