



# Rail-Track Laying and Maintenance Equipment Operators

**NEXT  
STEPS**  
IDAHO

## What Is It?

Lay, repair, and maintain track for standard or narrow-gauge railroad equipment used in regular railroad service or in plant yards, quarries, sand and gravel pits, and mines. Includes ballast cleaning machine operators and railroad bed tamping machine operators.

## What Do They Typically Do?

- Getting Information
- Making Decisions and Solving Problems
- Operating Vehicles, Mechanized Devices, or Equipment

## Annual Income:

- Entry Level: \$45,800
- Typical: \$60,100
- Experienced: \$71,470

## Major Employers:

Transportation and Warehousing, Government

## What do I do next?

### Learn about the job culture:

- Schedule at least one informational interview
- Conduct a job shadow, if possible
- Research available volunteer or intern opportunities

### Prepare for training:

- Visit and call trade schools or colleges that offer a related program
- Research regional job openings at: [idahoworks.gov](http://idahoworks.gov)

### Explore all pathways to certification:

[labor.idaho.gov/jobscape](http://labor.idaho.gov/jobscape)

## Talk to your school counselor or advisor for more information

## Get started today!

Ask about the career & technical programs at your school or nearby technical college.

Check out Idaho Digital Learning Academy for online opportunities: [idahodigitallearning.org](http://idahodigitallearning.org)

For tips, tools, and resources to learn how your skills and interests can translate to a rewarding career, visit the Next Steps Idaho website.

[www.NextSteps.Idaho.gov](http://www.NextSteps.Idaho.gov)



Data provided by O\*NET National Resource Center, [onetcenter.org](http://onetcenter.org) and Idaho Department of Labor

A proud partner of the [americanjobcenter](http://americanjobcenter.org) network