



# Train Driver -

operating trains on rail networks, making sure that passengers and freight get to where they're going safely and on time.



<p><b>Entry requirements:</b></p> <p>You can get into this job through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• working towards this role</li></ul> <p>You could start out by doing another job that shows you have an interest in the industry, like passenger assistant. You can then apply for trainee driver posts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• applying directly</li></ul> <p>Typically you would apply directly to a train operating company to become a train driver.</p> <p>Employers expect you to have GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 in English and Maths or equivalent qualifications.</p>	<p><b>Skills required:</b></p> <p>You will need:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• concentration skills</li><li>• to be thorough and pay attention to detail</li><li>• patience and the ability to remain calm in stressful situations</li><li>• the ability to operate and control equipment</li><li>• knowledge of public safety and security</li><li>• observation and recording skills</li><li>• the ability to work well with others</li><li>• knowledge of transport methods, costs and benefits</li><li>• Being able to use a computer terminal or hand-held device may be beneficial for this job</li><li>• to be over 20 years of age</li></ul>
<p><b>What you will do:</b></p> <p>In this role you could be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• checking equipment and engines</li><li>• contacting control centres for information about routes and any problems</li><li>• following signalling instructions during the journey</li><li>• making passenger announcements</li><li>• controlling automatic doors</li><li>• positioning and handing over engines to drivers on the next shift</li><li>• recording incidents like equipment problems, dangers and delays</li></ul>	<p><b>What you will earn:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Starter: £20,000</li><li>• Experienced: £60,000</li></ul> <p><i>These figures are a guide.</i></p>
<p><b>Working hours, patterns and environment:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• You could work from a vehicle</li><li>• Your working environment may be noisy and you may spend nights away from home</li><li>• You may need to wear a uniform</li><li>• 35 to 40 hours a week</li><li>• Evenings, Weekends and Bank Holidays in a shift pattern</li></ul>	<p><b>Career path and progression:</b></p> <p>Your train driver training will usually take around 12 months. Once you've completed this, you could also work for a rail engineering company, driving on-track machines used in maintenance work.</p> <p>With experience you could take further training to become a train driver trainer, teaching other trainee drivers.</p> <p>You could also move into management, making sure there are enough train drivers and trains so that the service can run on time. From there you could move into operations or senior management.</p>