

Rail Subsector

CAREER GUIDE

volume 9



Transport Education Training Authority



Transport SETA





Transport Education Training Authority

Driven by Vision

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REGIONAL OFFICES



KwaZulu-Natal:

Freight Handling Chamber
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+27 31 301 9614



Limpopo:

Forwarding and Clearing Chamber
19A Bok Street | Polokwane
+27 15 917 0001/2



Western Cape:

Maritime Chamber
Newlands on Main | Ground Floor
Mariendahl House | 13 Main Road
Newlands | Cape Town | 7700
+27 21 819 9601
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Mpumalanga:

Road Freight Chamber
16 Brander Street, Bi-water Building |
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RAIL SUBSECTOR

SUBSECTOR OVERVIEW

The rail industry deals with the transportation of goods, passengers and livestock by rail; the control, management accomplishment, maintenance and exploitation of railways and rail services; the maintenance, servicing, repair, overhaul and testing locomotives; rolling stock; and support services. The SIC code is: 71112 – Railway Commuter and Freight Services.

The main companies in the subsector are:

- Transnet SOC Ltd
- The Passenger Rail Agency South Africa (PRASA); and
- Several medium-sized rail enterprises.

The other operators comprise rail entities at the ports, cross border operations, rail heritage and surface operators on mines. In addition, municipal sidings and service lines, which provide access from the national network to private sidings for numerous operators in the agricultural, manufacturing and petro-chemical sectors. Infrastructure development projects are underway to improve the quality of the railway lines in South Africa.



Occupations in the RAIL SUB SECTOR

1. TRANSPORTATION OF COMMUTERS OR FREIGHT

TRAIN DRIVER

Occupational code: 731101

Brief Job Description

- Drive trains in accordance with rules and laws
- Ensure safety of passengers
- Ensure goods arrive to their destination
- Inspect train systems before departure

Areas you can specialise in

- Freight
- Passenger

Entry Requirements

- Grade 12 with Maths and Science
- Occupational Certificate: Train Driver
- In-service training

Required Qualities for Success

- Good hand-eye coordination
- Good time management skills
- Interpret and observe signals
- Listening skills

Factors to Consider

- Ability to deal with members of the public
- Flexibility and ability to work unsociable hours

TRAIN CONTROLLER

Other name variations: Railways Yard
Foreman

Occupational code: 731202

Brief Job Description

- Use computerised systems to control safe movement of trains
- Use computers to activate track switches and traffic signals
- Supervise yard workers who switches tracks when routing of traffic
- Supervise yard workers who couples and uncouples cars (wagons)

Entry Requirements

- Grade 12 with Maths and science
- Learnership or equivalent
- In-service training

Required Qualities for Success

- IT skills
- Good communication skills
- Attention to detail and alertness



RAILWAY SIGNAL OPERATOR

Other name variations: Functional
Yard Operator

Occupational code: 731201

Brief Job Description

- Control the flow of railway traffic over sections of railway lines
- Operate signals and switches from control panels or signal boxes.
- Couple and uncouple coaches/motor powered rail cars (wagons)
- Control shunt movement of motor powered rail cars (wagons)
- Communicate with Train Control Officer,
- Fault-finding and repairing railway equipment

Entry Requirements

- Grade 12 or equivalent
- Learnership
- Occupational Certificate: Railway Signal Operator

Required Qualities for Success

- Technical know-how of railway signal equipment procedures
- Effectively communicate skills
- Adhere to safety requirements
- Attention to detail

Factors to Consider

- Always be up to the task and be alert
- A slip in executing your task can have disastrous consequences

RAILWAY STEWARD

Other name variations: Travel Attendant
Train

Occupational code: 511104

Brief Job Description

- Provides services for the safety and comfort of passengers travelling by train
- Check passenger tickets and directing them to their seats and cabins
- Make public announcements

Entry Requirements

- Grade 12
- Travel and tourism qualification

Required Qualities for Success

- You must have good interpersonal skills
- (outgoing and good conflict management skills)
- Culturally sensitive
- Ability to work under pressure
- Must be a team player

Factors to Consider

- You may encounter difficult customers, patience is required
- You may spend many days away from home
- Occupation has height restrictions

2. TECHNICAL

DIESEL ELECTRIC FITTER

Other name variations: Diesel Electric Fitter

Occupational code: 653304

Brief Job Description

- Perform scheduled maintenance, tests and repairs diesel motors used for generating power in ships, locomotives, and other equipment
- Diagnosis and repair of electrical systems
- Diagnosis and repair of electronic engine management systems
- Diagnosis and repair of fuel systems

Entry Requirements

- Grade 12
- Apprentice programme

Required Qualities for Success

- A good level of fitness
- Excellent mechanical and electrical skills
- Good problem-solving skills
- Good communication skills

Factors to Consider

- A willingness to work flexible hours and overtime

ELECTRICAL ENGINEER

Other name variations: Railway Signal Engineer

Occupational code: 215101

Brief Job Description

- Design, manufactures, installs and maintain equipment that generates or uses electricity
- Establishing control standards and procedures to monitor performance and safety of electrical generating and distribution systems equipment

Entry Requirements

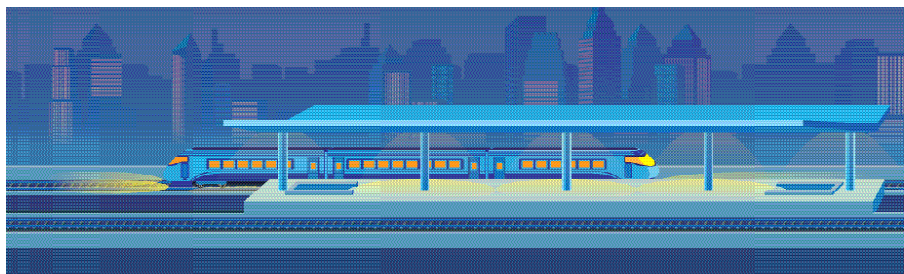
- Grade 12 with maths and science
- Diploma in Electrical Engineering or equivalent

Required Qualities for Success

- Mathematical inclination
- Make decisions and able to delegate tasks
- Excellent mechanical and analytical skills
- Good interpersonal and leadership skills

Factors to Consider

- Physical fitness
- Willingness to work flexible and overtime hours



ELECTRIC FITTER

Occupational code: 671101

Brief Job Description

- Electrical Fitters repair and test locomotive, generators, compressors, roof equipment, brake systems, batteries and many more
- Also performs panel wiring and machine electrical fitting

Entry Requirements

- Grade 12
- Apprentice programme

Required Qualities for Success

- A good level of fitness
- Excellent mechanical and electrical skills
- Good problem-solving skills
- Good communication skills

Additional Areas to Consider

- Physical fitness
- Willingness to work flexible hours and overtime

Other technical occupations in this field

- Armature Winder
- Blacksmith
- Civil Engineering
- Electromechanician
- Mechanical Engineering
- Sheet metal worker/Plater
- Turner and Machinist
- Vehicle Builder
- Wagon Fitter
- Welder

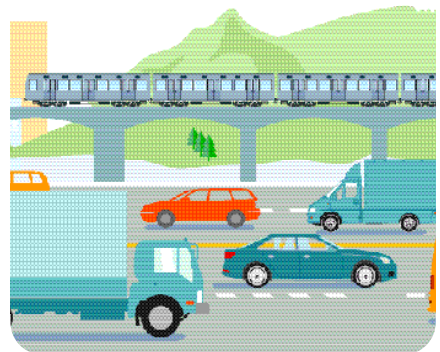
PIPELINE SUBSECTOR

SUBSECTOR OVERVIEW

The pipeline subsector involves:

- The supply chain management service of the hydrocarbon pipeline from source to destination
- The transportation of crude oil, refined petroleum products and gas through a network of over 3 000 kilometres of pipelines from the ports and refineries to various distribution depots throughout the country
- An integrated freight and logistics service between the pipelines, ports and rail subsectors to ensure a unified supply chain.

The Transnet Group owns, operates and maintains the pipeline network within South Africa. Transnet Pipelines has its own training facility, the “School of Pipelines” that ensures that the right skills are created for this subsector.



OCCUPATIONS IN THE PIPELINE SUBSECTOR

Operations Occupation fields

Transnet Pipelines' operations offers

Occupations the following areas:

- Pipeline operations (technical and nontechnical)
- Depot management
- Pipeline transmission optimisation (Control room)
- Fractionator operations
- Product Quality Management
- Road and rail loading operations
- Pipeline Risk management
- Pipeline Security Management

SUPPORT OCCUPATIONS

Some of the support occupational fields in the pipeline subsector are:

- Business strategy and continuity management
- Business development
- Environmental management
- Human resources and payroll management
- Financial management
- Risk management
- ICT systems management
- Stores management
- Supply chain management

For more information please contact:

Transnet Pipelines

Phone Number: +27 31 361 1456

www.transnetpipelines.net

2. SUPPORT SERVICES

All organisations within the rail subsector require support services. Within the support services you will find careers in IT, marketing, sales, finance, HR, legal services, research and development:

- Communications and Marketing
- Financial Management and Accounting
- Facilities Management
- Human Resources Management
- ICT and Systems
- Internal Auditing
- Legal Services
- Market Research
- Project Managers
- Ticket Sellers
- Ticket Checkers
- Risk and Insurance
- Security Personnel
- Supply Chain Management

HARD TO FILL VACANCIES IN THE RAIL SUBSECTOR

- Diesel Fitter
- Electrician
- Electrical Engineering Technician
- Programme or Project Manager
- Railways Assistant
- Railway Signal Operator
- Sheet Metal Worker
- Train Driver
- Train Controller
- Welder

Jobs or careers that will diminish with the 4IR/Jobs under pressure

- Train drivers Information points and ticketing offices
- Station staff at ticket barriers
- Train guards
- Big data analysts
- Cyber security experts
- Climate change experts
- AI, IIOT & digitalization specialists

Jobs /careers that will be in demand or Jobs on the rise

- Big data analysts
- Cyber security experts
- Climate change experts
- AI, IIOT & digitalization specialists

CONTACT DETAILS

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Web address: www.transport.gov.za

PRASA
Web address: www.prasa.com
Transport Education Training Authority
Web address: www.teta.org.za

Transnet
Web address: www.transnet.net

Railway Safety Regulator
Web address: www.rsr.org.za

Bombela Operating Company (PTY) LTD
Web address: www.bombela.com





BOMBELA



Operating Company (Pty) Ltd.



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