

# JOBS IN Transportation

OUR LAND. OUR POSSIBILITIES.







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## Introduction

Workers in the transportation sector provide services that are essential for the well-being of communities in Nunavut. Without transportation services, people would not be able to travel for holidays or receive goods like food and medicine, especially for those living in remote locations. Nunavut presents unique challenges for the transportation sector. Because there are no highways or railways that connect our territory to southern Canada, most goods or products are delivered by the main vehicle of transportation: the airplane. Sealift also allows communities to obtain goods and materials. In the summer months, ships travel from several southern Canada ports with a variety of goods such as heavy equipment and vehicles. Compared to other key industries in Nunavut, airplane transportation is important because we are heavily dependent upon air travel and air freight for most of our every-day needs. Overall, transportation by rail, sea, road and air offer a number of exciting career opportunities.



## **What is transportation?**

Transportation is the movement of people and goods or products from one place to another. The most familiar type of transportation is for personal use such as family cars or vans. In the north, ATVs are common in the summer months and snowmobiles are common in the winter months. There are many types of vehicles used in the transportation sector. Land transportation uses trucks on roads or trains on railways, water transportation uses barges in canals or boats in the sea, and air transportation uses airplanes and airports.

## **Will there be jobs in transportation?**

Within the transportation sector, the aviation industry is by far the largest in Nunavut. There are 26 airports located in our communities including the international airport located in the capital city, Iqaluit. Without highways or railways that connect the north to southern Canada, there will always be a high demand for workers in the aviation industry. Although Nunavut primarily uses airplane transportation, opportunities exist in other provinces and territories in Canada that use large transport trucks as well as large boats or barges for the delivery of goods and products.

## **What jobs will there be in the transportation sector?**

There are many different types of jobs within the transportation sector and they require varying degrees of education, skills and experience. Most employers look for individuals who have the ability to clearly talk to and listen to others. They also hire individuals who are responsible and who have a desire to continuously learn on the job. These are just some of the skills that are important in any workplace. In the transportation sector, some jobs require little or no previous experience or skill, whereas other jobs require specialized training or certification in a trade.

There are many more job opportunities in the transportation sector including air, land, marine and rail jobs! Check with your local Career Development Officer for information about these opportunities and more.



### Entry-level jobs

Requires little or no previous experience but you should be willing to complete on-the-job training if needed.

Job	Description
Ramp Attendant	Operates ramp-servicing vehicles; handles cargo and baggage, marshals and tows aircraft, cleans aircraft interiors and exteriors
Truck Driver	Drives a vehicle, plans the schedule and itinerary. Must be familiar with existing regulations. Supervises the loading and unloading of the truck and ensure that it is safe
Ordinary Seaman/ Woman (Deck Crew)	Stands watch, operates and maintains deck equipment and performs other deck and bridge duties aboard ships
Railway Track Maintenance Workers	Operate machines and equipment to lay, maintain and repair railway tracks

## Technical and skilled jobs

You need a technical college diploma, which often takes one to two years to complete or a course specific to the job.

Job	Description
Flight Attendant	Has training in emergency procedures and ensures the safety and comfort of passengers
Automotive Collision Repair	Performs auto body repair, paint preparation and painting/refinishing
Officer in Marine Engineering	Makes sure a ship's engines, equipment and related gear are adequately maintained and running properly; supervise and coordinate the work of machine room crew members
Train Conductor	Coordinates and supervises the activities of passenger and freight crew members; direct rolling stock manoeuvres, communicate and interpret signals pertaining to train movements; ensures that operations are carried out according to regulations
Heavy Equipment Operator	Operates heavy equipment and machinery



## Apprenticeship trades

These jobs require that you be a journeyperson, tradesperson, or an apprentice. (See page 11 for more information about Apprenticeship Trades Training.)

Job	Description
Aircraft Maintenance Engineer	Checks, repairs and replaces aircraft parts; performs aircraft maintenance and inspections; prepares technical reports
Automotive Service Technician	Performs preventative maintenance, diagnoses breakdowns and repairs automobiles and light trucks
Heavy Duty Equipment Technician	Repairs, troubleshoots, adjusts, overhauls and maintains heavy equipment; performs routine maintenance, inspections and upgrades on equipment
Truck and Transport Mechanic	Maintains, services, repairs and modifies transport trucks and their components; services emergency vehicles, public buses and more

## Management and supervisory jobs

These jobs require a university degree.

Job	Description
Chief Pilot	Directs and supervises all flight crew
Automotive Engineer	Checks, services and repairs motor vehicles and their parts and systems; works on cars, vans, trucks and other vehicles
Marine Engineer	Operates and maintains systems onboard a ship
Railway Supervisors	Supervises and coordinates the work of locomotive engineers and railway workers; plans strategies for meeting work schedules and resolves work problems



## Working conditions

The working conditions in the transportation sector vary with each occupation. For example, pilots who work in the aviation industry often work long, irregular hours. The stress of being responsible for a safe flight, especially in harsh weather, can be exhausting. Cargo attendants deliver luggage to and from the aircraft, which requires heavy lifting. In the north, cargo attendants spend many hours outdoors in cold weather conditions. Whether you like working indoors or outdoors, office work at a desk or physically challenging work, there are many job opportunities in the transportation sector to suit a wide range of skills and interests.



## Where to get training

### Nunavut Arctic College

Nunavut Arctic College offers a pre-apprenticeship program in small engine repair concentrating on snowmobiles, ATVs and outboards. This pre-apprenticeship program allows you get hands-on-training with an introduction to theory in an open learning setting. It allows you to get experience in your local community and hopefully continue working close to home.

### Southern colleges

There are many college programs across Canada that can help you get a job in the transportation sector. Some colleges have separate schools of study that are dedicated to aviation and automotive study. In the north, the Buffalo School of Aviation located in Yellowknife, Northwest Territories offers a two-year Aircraft Maintenance Engineer (AME) program which combines classroom and practical shop experience. Consult with your local Career Development Officer for more information.

## University programs

There are many Canadian universities that offer programs that can help you prepare for a career in the transportation sector. Some include Engineering, Law, Computer Science, Physics, Chemistry, Environmental Sciences, Technology and many more. If you are interested in research and writing, some colleges and universities partner with research institutions to share information and resources. For example, Marine Institutes, Transport Institutes or specific academic departments are dedicated to research in transportation technology and other relevant areas.



## **Apprenticeship training and occupational certification**

There are many opportunities to get apprenticeship training to prepare you for a job in the transportation sector. Many jobs in the transportation sector and its service industries require certification in a trade. With certification, you can make more money, work independently and find jobs much more easily. It is important to pick a trade that suits you based on your interests and skills.

### **What steps do I take to start an apprenticeship program?**

There is not a set level of education needed to take an apprenticeship but many employers want apprentices with high school diplomas.

You need to pass the Trades Entrance Exam.

Find an employer to hire you, or take a pre-employment trades program through Nunavut Arctic College.

Register as an apprentice and sign a work agreement with your employer.

Contact your local Career Centre to get more information about apprenticeship or occupational certification or visit [www.apprenticeshiptrades.ca](http://www.apprenticeshiptrades.ca) to learn more about becoming an apprentice.

## Financial assistance

The Nunavut Student Financial Assistance Program is available if you require financial help during your studies. To see if you qualify, contact:

FANS (Financial Assistance for Nunavut Students)

Nunavut Department of Education

PO Box 390

Arviat, NU X0C 0E0

Telephone: (867) 857-3085

Toll-free: 1-877-860-0680

Email: [fans@gov.nu.ca](mailto:fans@gov.nu.ca)



## How to apply for a job in transportation

To apply for a job, send your résumé and a cover letter to the Government of Nunavut and to all of the companies where you would like to work. Your regional Career Centre can help you write your résumé and cover letter.

If you are interested in a career in the transportation sector, try reading different job postings to get an idea of some of the job skills and responsibilities required for certain positions. Look for advertised construction jobs in the newspapers or on the company websites.

**The following websites are a good start for your job search:**

- [www.nunatsiaqnews.com](http://www.nunatsiaqnews.com) and click on “Jobs” under the Current Ads section
- [www.gov.nu.ca](http://www.gov.nu.ca) and click on “Employment” for jobs with the Government of Nunavut

## Career Planning

### Take control of your career and future

Career planning starts in your youth and continues throughout adulthood where you decide what training and education you want. In order to be successful in your career, you need to find the best fit between your interests, skills, and values. Planning today will help you find a job that you truly love doing in the future.

Your regional Career Centre can help you find career training and employment information, write résumés, apply for jobs, and prepare for a job interview. Take the first step of your career by contacting a Career Centre to learn about all the possibilities that await you.

## Nunavut Apprenticeship Contacts

### Career Development Officers

Qikiqtaaluk (Baffin) region (800) 567-1514

Kivalliq region (800) 953-8516

Kitikmeot region (800) 953-8516

Iqaluit (867) 975-6573

Supervisor of Apprenticeship (867) 975-5658

Registrar of Apprenticeship (867) 857-3079

### Skills Canada Nunavut

P.O. Box 1000, Stn. 940

Iqaluit, Nunavut X0A 0H0

☎ (867) 975-6574

📠 (867) 975-6572

[www.skillsnunavut.ca](http://www.skillsnunavut.ca)

