

## **JOB DESCRIPTION: RAILROAD CONDUCTOR, ROAD & YARD SERVICE**

Railroad Conductor is a highly safety-sensitive position that requires a constant high level of mental alertness and vigilance, complying with and (by rule) requiring the Engineer to comply with signal indications, speed restrictions, operating rules, timetable instructions, and public crossing whistle compliance at required locations. The work may require the Conductor to perform the following daily essential functions:

- Work is primarily performed outside in all weather conditions.
- May be subject to irregular work hours with shifts up to 12 hours in length.
- Constantly work on and/or around potentially hazardous, moving equipment.
- Prolonged walking or standing on uneven, at times severely sloping terrain (ballast). Average total daily distance is approximately 3 to 6 miles. On a less frequent, non-daily basis, may be required to walk up to 3 to 4 miles at any one time on ballast.
- Frequently climb vertical ladders on the train cars, and balance on ladders and crossover boards on train cars. Frequently reach above shoulder level to grasp ladder.
- Frequently ride on the side of moving train, at times for prolonged periods (e.g. 10 minutes or more). Subject to sudden or unexpected movement from slack action when train decelerates (slack action from drawbars that connect rail cars and that are designed to move in/out and act as "shock absorbers").
- Frequently "throw" railroad switches (involves a partial squat, and push/pull of a ground or waist level lever for a portion of 180 degree arc; should require minimal to moderate force).
- Frequently connect or disconnect air hoses between cars (involves a partial squat while reaching between two train cars to grip each hose, and rotate the hose end above the horizontal plane).
- Frequently pull a release bar (usually attached to the end sill of the rail car) to separate train cars, and frequently adjust "draw bars" (the appliance for connecting freight cars or locomotives) between rail cars.
- Frequently applying/releasing hand brakes located on the side of train cars. Often performed at heights while standing on a vertical ladder or train car platform, use one hand to maintain a secure handhold on the ladder rung, and the other to grab and turn the brake (wheel or ratchet lever). This task may occur on moving car when brake is applied to slow movement.
- Occasionally lift at waist level and carry (on uneven terrain) up to 40 pounds on a daily basis. On a rare, not daily basis, lift from floor to waist and carry (on uneven terrain) a train "knuckle" (which is part of the drawbar assembly) weighing approximately 80 pounds.
- Occasionally bend, stoop, squat, crouch, and kneel. Rarely crawl.