



PROGRAMME INFORMATION

Operate a Chainsaw
HAND TOOLS

PURPOSE

The purpose of this learning programme is to promote safe and proficient operation of a chainsaw through applied learning in accordance with legislated criteria.

WHY DO I NEED THIS?

To help in prevent injuries, fatalities and property damage caused by untrained or poorly trained personnel as a result of ineffective or negligent operation.

TARGET AUDIENCE

Responsible learners over the age of eighteen (18) who wish to learn how to operate a chainsaw safely and proficiently.

SCOPE

The qualifying learner will be able to operate a chainsaw by understanding the functions of starting, shutting down and operating procedures for the equipment. The qualifying learner will be capable of:

- Utilise safety precautions for the use of chainsaws.
- Indicate the various components of a chainsaw and their functions.
- Carry out pre-operational checks on a chainsaw.
- Remove limbs from felled trees and perform logging.
- Conduct basic maintenance on a chainsaw.
- Planning for work activities and prepare work area.
- Achieving maximum work performance of the chainsaw by applying knowledge of equipment dimensions, controls, principles of operation and capacities, manufacturing specifications and circumstances in the working environment.
- Operating equipment in accordance with laid down organisational and legislative standards and procedures as well as manufacturer's guidelines.
- Access available emergency support systems and services in the case of an incident or an accident.
- Discuss and apply the regulatory framework for safe operation of a chainsaw.

In addition, learners will:

- Contribute to the national skills development strategy which is the key developmental interface between Learners and new competencies to be achieved.
- Master the applied competence described in this unit standard and, as a result, will contribute to the development of a professional community of chainsaw operators who are able to competently use science and technology when applying operation techniques.
- Contribute to socio-economic transformation in that learners will be able to undergo RPL-assessment and thereby receive recognition for previous learning and experience to help enhance the employability and career prospects of learners.

APPLICATION

After completing this learning programme, qualifying persons will be able to operate a chainsaw in terms of company standards, legislated criteria and best practice.

EXPECTED DELIVERY TIME

Novice Training

Five days. This applies to learners with little to no experience. Such learners must attend full training and complete a learner assignment.

Re-Certification Training

One Day. This applies to learners who are in possession of a Certificate of Competency (COC) that has either expired or is about to expire. Such learners are required to produce a recognised COC as evidence of prior learning in order to be eligible for Re-Certification training (also known as “Refresher Training”).

CERTIFICATION

A Certificate of Competency will be issued to successful Learners based on the type, make, model and capacity of the equipment the training was conducted on. A Certificate of Competency (COC) is valid for a maximum period of two years from date of issue.

UNIT STANDARD

This learning programme is based on the registered SAQA Unit Standard No: 264195, SAQA Title: Operate Chainsaws for Limbing and Logging at Ground Level. This SAQA Unit Standard is worth 6 credits at NQF Level 01.

ENTRANCE QUALIFICATIONS

It is assumed that learners accessing this unit standard will have demonstrated competence in:

- Communication at NQF Level 1 or equivalent.
- Mathematical Literacy at NQF Level 1 or equivalent.

It is further assumed that:

- Learners are medically fit (mentally and physically) with the learning ability and potential to become a competent operator.
- Learners possess a healthy respect for their own safety, their fellow learners’ as well as any other personnel who may be encountered during training. Learners shall each have their own Personal Protective Equipment and stationery when attending training.