



Explore a Career as a

HAND LABORER

OR MATERIAL MOVER

What do Hand Laborers and Material Movers do?

A typical day will include manually moving freight, stock, or other materials to and from storage or production areas including loading docks, delivery vehicles, ships, or containers by hand or using trucks, tractors, or other equipment. They read work orders or receive oral instructions to determine work assignment, material or equipment needs. They also are responsible for the installation of protective devices, such as bracing, padding, or strapping, to prevent shifting or damage to items being transported, and record numbers of units handled or moved, using daily production sheets or work tickets. They also will perform other general labor as assigned. Others feed or remove material to and from machines, clean vehicles, pick up unwanted household goods, and pack materials for moving.

Training & Educational Opportunities

Hand laborers and materials movers typically do not need a formal education, although earning a certificate can help. Employers offer on-the-job training and typically require only that applicants be physically able to perform the work. Some employers may require forklift operator training and/or OSHA forklift certification.

As a Hand Laborer or Material Mover you will:

- Attach sling, hook, or other devices to lift cargo and guide load
- Document and maintain records of material being moved
- Pack or wrap products by hand
- Sort cargo before loading and unloading
- Stack cargo in location such as transit shed, or in hold of ship as directed, using pallet or cargo board

Hand Laborers and Material Movers are in demand in Livingston County!

Livingston County employment of hand laborers and Material movers is expected to grow through 2020.

Hand Laborer or Material Mover

Training Providers

The following certified training providers offer programs and certifications to train for a career as a hand laborer or material mover:

- Joliet Junior College
- Kankakee Community College

Career scholarships may be available if you qualify.



Types of Employers

There are many different types of employers of hand laborers and material movers, including:

- Automobile dealerships
- Auto detail and car wash establishment
- Trucking companies
- Warehouses

Wages & Openings

Hand Laborer and Material Mover Employment Data for Livingston County

Average Starting Hourly Wage	\$11.08
Average Hourly Wage With Experience	\$24.29
Average Annual Job Openings Livingston County	72
Average Annual Job Openings Chicago Metro	589

Opportunities

After you complete training as a hand laborer or material mover, you will have opportunities for specialization and advancement. Some opportunities include:

- Construction Laborer
- Delivery Truck Driver (short-haul)
- Heavy and Tractor-trailer Truck Driver (long-haul)
- Material Moving Machine Operator
- Refuse and recyclable material collector

