

WAC 296-155-53306 Rigger qualifications. (1) The rigger must meet the qualification requirements (subsection (3) of this section) prior to performing hoisting activities. A qualified rigger is required whenever employees are engaged in hooking, unhooking, guiding the load, or the connection of a load to a component or structure. This requirement must be met by using either Option (1) or Option (2).

(a) **Option (1) - Third-party qualified evaluator.** The rigger has documentation from a third-party qualified evaluator showing that the rigger meets the qualification requirements listed in subsection (3) of this section.

(b) **Option (2) - Employer's qualified evaluator.** The employer's qualified evaluator assesses the individual and determines that the individual meets the qualification requirements listed in subsection (3) of this section and provides documentation of that determination. An assessment by an employer's qualified evaluator under this option is not portable, meaning other employers are not permitted to use this qualification to meet the requirements of this section.

(c) The employer must make the documentation for whichever option is used available at the site while the rigger is employed by the employer. The documentation must specify each type of rigging for which the rigger meets the requirements of subsection (3) of this section.

(2) If subsequent actions by the rigger indicate that the individual may not meet the qualification requirements listed in subsection (3) of this section, the employer must not allow the individual to continue working as a rigger until retraining is provided and a re-assessment is made in accordance with subsection (1) of this section that confirms that the individual meets the qualification requirements.

(3) **Qualification requirements.** Each rigger must:

(a) Know and understand the requirements located in ASME B30.7-2021, Winches, B30.9-2021, Slings, B30.10-2019, Hooks, B30.16-2022, Overhead Underhung and Stationary Hoists, B30.20-2021, Below-the-Hook Lifting Devices, B30.21-2014, Lever Hoists and B30.26-2015, Rigging Hardware, as applicable;

(b) Know and understand the type of sling and hitch used. For example, if synthetic web slings are used, the rigger must know and understand the removal criteria for this type of sling and how to properly use the sling;

(c) Be competent in the application of the type of hitches used;

(d) Have a basic understanding of slings, rigging hardware and below-the-hook lifting devices (as applicable); their limitations, rigging practices, associated hazards, and inspection requirements;

(e) Know and understand load weight estimation, center of gravity, effect of angles on rigging components, load turning, knots/tag lines, chain hoist/come-a-long usage, winch and block usage, and basic hand signals, as applicable;

(f) Know and understand the relevant requirements of WAC 296-155-556 through 296-155-56220 and this section; and

(g) Demonstrate that they meet the requirements in (a) through (f) of this subsection through a written test and a practical test. All tests must be documented.

Note:

• This section does not require that each and every worker associated with the rigging of a component or structure to be a "fully qualified rigger" as defined in this section. The requirement is for at least one of the workers to be a fully qualified rigger. However, all other associated workers must be qualified by training or experience to perform their assigned tasks.

(4) **Qualification period.** A rigger qualification cannot exceed a five-year period; this qualification must be renewed every five years

to ensure riggers maintain qualified status. At a minimum, this renewal must include a documented written exam.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, 49.17.040, 49.17.050, 49.17.060, and chapter 49.17 RCW. WSR 25-16-089, s 296-155-53306, filed 8/5/25, effective 9/5/25. Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, 49.17.040, 49.17.050, 49.17.060. WSR 16-09-085, § 296-155-53306, filed 4/19/16, effective 5/20/16. Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, 49.17.040, 49.17.050, 49.17.060 and chapter 49.17 RCW, and 29 C.F.R. 1926, Subpart CC. WSR 13-02-068, § 296-155-53306, filed 12/31/12, effective 2/1/13. Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, 49.17.040, 49.17.050, 49.17.440, 49.17.060, and 29 C.F.R. 1926, Subpart CC. WSR 12-01-086, § 296-155-53306, filed 12/20/11, effective 2/1/12.]