ROADS AND PAVEMENTS CAREERS | QUEENSLAND

# WHAT'S A SPRAY SEAL OPERATOR?

**A JOB YOU'VE PROBABLY NEVER HEARD OF** — THAT PAYS WELL, TRAVELS QUEENSLAND, AND IS CRYING OUT FOR PEOPLE.




**FIRST UP — WHAT EVEN IS SPRAY SEALING?**

## IT'S HOW MOST OF QUEENSLAND'S ROADS GET THEIR SURFACE.

Not every road is thick black asphalt. Most of Queensland's roads, especially country roads, get a different, faster surface called a spray seal. First, a truck sprays a layer of hot, sticky bitumen onto the road. Straight away, a second truck spreads small stones on top. A roller presses the stones into the bitumen, and that's your road surface. Think buttering toast, then pressing it face-down into sprinkles.

The star of the crew is the sprayer operator, you run the truck that lays the bitumen at exactly the right rate. Too little and the road falls apart; too much and it bleeds.

Getting it right is a real skill, and it's what the good money is for.

### NOT JUST HOSING DOWN TAR

The sprayer rig is a precise machine. You control the temperature, the spray rate and the pressure to an exact spec, on a live road, often in the middle of nowhere. High skill, high responsibility — and it takes you all over the state.

The sprayer lays the hot bitumen, the spreader throws the stone on top, the roller presses it in. One pass, and a country road has a new surface.

THE PAY

### GOOD MONEY, PLUS TRAVEL

Start around $30–40 an hour on the crew — roughly $65k–$80k. Operate the sprayer rig and you're on $80k–$95k. Away jobs pay allowances on top, so it climbs past $100k.

TIME & SKILLS

### EARN WHILE YOU LEARN

You're paid from day one, and you can turn it into a funded Certificate in Civil Construction while you work. In Queensland, if you're under 25, the government covers your training."

WHAT YOU NEED

### DRIVER'S LICENCE & WHITE CARD

To operate the sprayer truck you'll want a truck (HR) licence and a Dangerous Goods licence, the crew helps you get them. No Year 12, no degree needed.

## WHERE COULD A CAREER IN ROADS TAKE YOU?

**FURTHER THAN YOU THINK.**

# WANT IN?

Scan the code. See real jobs near you. Come chat at the booth, we'll tell you exactly where to start.

# A CAREER THAT GROWS WITH YOU.

**You start on the ground and work up to the sprayer seat** — the skilled, best-paid job on the crew. Pick up your truck licence and tickets along the way, and every one is more money. Then it's leading the crew, and running the jobs."

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|---|---|
| **SPRAY SEAL CREW MEMBER**<br>Day one, no experience; stones, edges, prep | **$60–$75K** |
| **SPREADER DRIVER / SPRAYER OPERATOR**<br>Runs the trucks that lay the seal | **$80–$95K** |
| **CREW LEADER / FOREMAN**<br>Runs the crew and the job on site | **$95–$120K** |
| **SPRAY SEAL SUPERVISOR**<br>Runs multiple crews across the region | **$120–$150K+** |

*Salary ranges are indicative of industry salary ranges as of August 2026.

### SURFACE THE STATE

Most of Queensland's roads are spray sealed. Drive anywhere in the country and you're rolling on work just like yours.

### GET PAID TO TRAVEL

Spray seal crews travel — country towns, regional highways, new sights every job. Away work pays allowances on top, so you see the state and earn more doing it.

### RARE SKILL, IN DEMAND

Few people can run a sprayer rig, so good operators are always wanted, especially in the regions.

**From there —** into asphalt and wider civil surfacing, plant operation, transport, or running your own sealing crew. The tickets you pick up along the way (truck licence, Dangerous Goods, machine tickets) work right across the industry.




**IS THIS YOU?**

## TICK THE ONES THAT SOUND LIKE YOU.

- [ ] You'd enjoy working and travelling with a good bunch of mates
- [ ] You'd like to see parts of Queensland most people never get to
- [ ] You'd rather be outside than stuck indoors
- [ ] You'd like to work with trucks and machinery
- [ ] You want good money, with extra for working away

**TICKED THREE OR MORE? THIS COULD BE YOUR JOB.**

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