ROADS AND PAVEMENTS CAREERS | QUEENSLAND

WHAT'S AN ASPHALT CREW?



NO UNI. NO DEBT. GET PAID TO LAY THE ROADS QUEENSLAND DRIVES ON. EARNING FROM DAY ONE. HERE'S HOW IT WORKS.

HOW DOES A ROAD GET ITS SMOOTH BLACK TOP?

THE PAVING CREW LAYS THE SURFACE YOU DRIVE ON.

The smooth black top of every road is asphalt. A hot mix of stone and bitumen (that's the sticky black glue that holds it all together). It turns up on a truck at about 160°C and has to be laid fast, flat and even before it cools. That's the paving crew's job. It's a team, and everyone has a spot:

- **The paver operator** drives the machine that lays the hot mix in one smooth strip, like rolling out a giant black carpet.
- **The screed hand** rides on the back and controls how thick and flat it goes.
- **The raker** works the edges and joins by hand, where the machine can't reach. You start on the rake, learn how the mix behaves, then work your way onto the machine. Behind you, a roller presses it hard, and it's a road.

THE PAY

GOOD MONEY, DAY & NIGHT

Start around $30–38 an hour. A lot of paving is night work, and night rates push that toward $50/hr, so full-time is roughly $65k–$90k. Get onto the paver, add overtime, and $100k+ is real.



WHAT YOU NEED

A WHITE CARD AND A LICENCE

No Year 12, no degree. You learn the mix and the machines on the job. Be ready for hot, physical, outdoor work and some night shifts.



TIME & SKILLS

EARN FROM WEEK ONE

No uni. No debt! You get paid from day one while you complete a nationally recognised Certificate. In Queensland, if you're under 25, the government covers your training.



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.

Nobody starts driving the paver. You start on the rake, learn how the mix behaves, then earn your spot on the machine. Every step up the crew is more skill and more money — right up to running the whole job.

CREW MEMBER / RAKER Day one, no experience — works the mix and edges	**$60–$75K**
SCREED HAND / PAVER OPERATOR Runs the machine that lays the road	**$80–$100K**
CREW LEADER / FOREMAN Runs the crew and the job on site	**$100–$120K**
ASPHALT SUPERVISOR Runs multiple crews, owns quality and delivery	**$120–$150K**

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

From foreman you can move into project supervision, asphalt plant management, estimating and quality, or run your own paving business. The skills work on every road job in the country.

BUILD STUFF THAT LASTS

Every smooth road you drive on, someone laid. That's you. From the Bruce Highway to the roads into Brisbane 2032.

HANDS ON, NEVER BORING

Outdoors, on the move, a new stretch of road every job. You finish a shift and see exactly what you built. Good crew, good graft.

SKILLS THAT TRAVEL

Your skills and tickets work right across Australia and the country needs around 300,000 more construction workers by 2027.

IS THIS YOU?

TICK THE ONES THAT SOUND LIKE YOU.

- [ ] You enjoy working and traveling with your mates
- [ ] You like staying active, not sitting around all day
- [ ] You work well in a crew where everyone relies on each other
- [ ] Early starts and summer sun don't bother you
- [ ] You want to earn while you learn, with no uni debt

TICKED THREE OR MORE? THIS COULD BE YOUR JOB.



WANT IN?

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

WHERE COULD A CAREER IN ROADS TAKE YOU?

FURTHER THAN YOU THINK.