ROADS AND PAVEMENTS CAREERS | QUEENSLAND

WHAT'S A ASPHALT TRUCK DRIVER?



NO UNI. NO DEBT. ON A ROAD CREW, THE TRUCK LICENCE YOU HOLD SETS YOUR PAY AND EMPLOYERS OFTEN PAY TO UPGRADE YOU.

YOU KNOW WHAT A TRUCK IS. HERE'S THE BIT NOBODY TELLS YOU.

YOUR LICENCE IS YOUR PAY PACKET.

Everyone knows what a truck driver does. Here's what they don't tell you: on a road crew, the size of truck you're licensed to drive decides how much you get paid. Bigger licence, bigger truck, bigger pay. It's a ladder, and it's called your licence class: **HR (Heavy Rigid)** are the big single trucks: tippers that carry the road base, water carts that keep the dust down. **HC (Heavy Combination)** are the trucks pulling a trailer, like a 'truck and dog'. This is the big pay step. **MC (Multi Combination)** are the giants: B-doubles and road trains. You don't need any of them on day one. You start with your normal car licence, get on a crew, and climb. Often with your employer paying for each upgrade.

NOT JUST SITTING IN A SEAT

You move the material the whole job runs on. You manage your loads, your truck and a live worksite full of people and machines around you. Modern trucks are full of tech, and getting it right is real skill. No load, no road.



THE PAY

YOUR LICENCE SETS YOUR PAY

Start around $36–45 an hour on an HR licence, roughly $65k–$85k. Step up to HC and MC and you're into $100k+. Add crane or float tickets, overtime and away work, and some clear $130k+

TIME & SKILLS

NO DEGREE, JUST TICKETS

No uni. No debt! Each licence is a short course — days, not years. Many civil employers pay to upgrade your licence once you're on the crew, so you earn while you climb.





WHAT YOU NEED

A CAR LICENCE TO START

You need to have held your car licence a couple of years before you can move up to a truck (HR) licence, so most drivers get on a crew first, then climb.
No Year 12, no degree.

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.

Every licence you earn is a pay rise. You start on your car licence, get on a crew, and work up through the classes. Each rung is a bigger truck and a bigger pay packet — and the tickets are yours for life.

HR DRIVER (HEAVY RIGID) Tippers and water carts; your first heavy licence	**$65–$85K**
HC DRIVER (HEAVY COMBINATION) Truck & dog, semi-trailers; the big pay step	**$85–$105K**
MC DRIVER (MULTI COMBINATION) B-doubles and road trains; the top driving licence	**$100–$130K**
SPECIALIST DRIVER Crane truck, float, road train + tickets	**$120–$150K+**

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

BRING THE JOB TO LIFE

Nothing gets built without you — you cart the road base in and the old road out. No load, no road.

OUT ON THE ROAD

Not stuck at a desk. Local runs to be home each night, or away work for bigger pay. See the state and get paid for it.

TICKETS FOR LIFE

Your licences never expire and work in every state and industry, from civil to mining.

From there, become a driver trainer, a transport supervisor or allocator running the whole fleet, or buy your own truck and work for yourself as an owner-driver."

IS THIS YOU?

TICK THE ONES THAT SOUND LIKE YOU.

- [ ] You'd like to drive heavy vehicles
- [ ] You're reliable and always turn up on time
- [ ] You're keen to get your drivers licence
- [ ] You'd rather be on the road than stuck in one spot
- [ ] You want good pay and a licence that can take you places

TICKED THREE OR MORE? THIS COULD BE YOUR JOB.



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