

- Shift rotation varies from 21 days on/4 days off, 24 days on/4 days off, or 28 days on/7 days off.


What is the Range of Pay?

Typically, a Seismic Driller is paid a “turnkey rate” meaning they are paid by the meter or foot drilled, however, interested candidates are encouraged to contact potential employers as some may pay by the hour, or by day. Most employers cover all accommodation costs while the employee is working, and a daily living allowance, called Hotshot, of \$40.00/day is given to each employee to be used for food. When interviewing with companies it is best to inquire if this benefit is offered.

Accommodation and Travel While on Shift

Crews either stay in hotels/motels that are close to the worksite, or if the program is taking place in a remote area where hotels/motels are unavailable, camps may be used. Camps vary depending on the managing company, and location. All meals in camp are included; therefore the daily living allowance of \$40.00/day is not passed out. Camps typically include washroom facilities, recreation rooms (include exercise equipment, televisions, etc.) laundry, towels & bedding, and open kitchens.

Most of the time companies will provide transportation of workers from point of rest (hotel/motel or camp) to the worksite; however depending on your roles and responsibilities you may be required to drive yourself from point of rest to the worksite.



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Careers in Seismic



Seismic Driller

Position Name: Seismic Driller

Description of Position

- Operates the drilling rig;
- Drills shot holes and supervises the loading of explosive charges;
- Responsible for the safe operation and productivity of the drilling rig;
- Responsible for all equipment, drill bits, dynamite, detonators, and other explosive material;
- Responsible for the safety of the Driller's Helper;
- Reports to the Drill Push;
- A valid driver's license is an asset and may be required by some companies in order to obtain employment. Potential candidates should also be aware that a driver's abstract may be required;
- It should also be noted that some companies will require drug and alcohol testing prior to employment.

Training Requirements

There are no minimum educational requirements for the position of Seismic Driller on a seismic drill crew; however, a high school education is always a definite asset and is strongly encouraged. Candidates interested in becoming a Seismic Driller should note that to acquire Seismic Driller status they will first need to train as a Driller's Helper in order to gain experience.

Obtaining Blaster certification through Enform's Seismic Blasting course will help to make the transition into Seismic Driller come to fruition more quickly. To qualify for this course the employee must meet the following conditions:

- Minimum 18 yrs of age (19 to obtain a blasters permit in the NWT);
- Minimum six months hands-on experience as a seismic blaster or seismic blaster assistant in the past 36 months immediately preceding the date of application;
- Ability to communicate effectively in the English language, both orally and in writing;
- Current Standard First Aid certificate, or equivalent;
- Completion of the prescribed application form for the course.

Career Path and Advancement from the Position of Faller

A Seismic Driller has the opportunity to advance into the position of Drill Push.

Is On-The-Job Training Provided?

Initial training for those new to the industry may include, but is not limited to:

- Company orientations (review of company policies, procedures, expectations etc.);
- Basic Safety Awareness (introduction to petroleum industry hazards, tasks, safe work procedures, emergency response planning, communication, tools, driving, etc.);
- WHMIS (Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System);
- H2S Aware (awareness training for hydrogen sulphide gases);
- Transportation of Dangerous Goods (TDG);
- First Aid/CPR;
- General Oilfield Driver Improvement (GODI) (awareness training for operating vehicles 5500kg GVW and over);
- Off Highway Vehicle Training (ATV's, UTV's, snowmobiles).

With six months of on-the-job-training and experience a Driller's Helper may have the opportunity to take the Seismic Blaster's course offered through Enform. To qualify for this course the Driller's Helper must meet the following conditions:

- Minimum 18 yrs of age (19 to obtain a blasters permit in the NWT);
- Minimum six months hands-on experience as a seismic blaster or seismic blaster assistant in the past 36 months immediately preceding the date of application;
- Ability to communicate effectively in the English language, both orally and in writing;
- Current Standard First Aid certificate, or equivalent;
- Completion of the prescribed application form for the course.

Additional Seasonal Training may be included such as:

- Wildlife Awareness (awareness training for dealing with wildlife);
- Cold Weather Awareness (awareness training for dealing with cold illnesses, clothing, blizzard conditions, appropriate footwear, industry hazards).

Generally most companies will provide their employees with up-to-date training in order to keep their skills current and up to the industry standard, however the responsibility may lie with the employee or potential employee to obtain some training courses on their own time.

Hours Worked/Standard Shift Rotation

- 12- 14 hours per day, seven days a week (includes travel time to and from the worksite, as well as lunches and breaks;