

47th Annual National Collegiate Landscape Competition
March 15 - 18, 2023
Mississippi State University

TRACTOR LOADER BACKHOE OPERATION

Description: The student (maximum of one individual per school) will demonstrate proficiency at operating a backhoe loader. The student will be required to do a pre-operation inspection and operate the backhoe to complete timed tasks. The clock begins when the operator lifts the backhoe bucket off the ground. A student operator will lift and place an object into a custom-made stand/holder without knocking over any cones. These tasks simulate speed, agility, efficiency and an awareness of your surroundings which are needed on a job site with the use of a backhoe. In addition, students will take a written exam on Friday covering general characteristics of a backhoe loader, safe operating practices, and maintenance.

Time: Students will have 30 minutes to complete the written exam on Friday which must be completed before operating and can be taken at any time throughout the day. A maximum of 10 minutes will be allowed for the operational portion of the event on Friday. Operating times will not be assigned or reserved in advance. Show up to the booth when it's convenient for you to take the test and stay to operate or come back later.

Limits: **The sponsor reserves the right to limit the number of individuals competing based on time or physical space constraints of the campus.** Schools will be able to compete based on the date their registrations were received and paid for. (Registrations that are received late or have not been paid will be placed on a waiting list.) The last operation time will be 4pm, no more tests will be handed out after that time.

JUDGING CRITERIA

Points: 100 possible points for the individual score; the individual score is doubled toward the team score for a total of 200 possible points.

Points will be assigned based on the following criteria:

1. Written Exam (50%)
2. Operation time to complete the tasks on the demonstration course (50%)

Students are required to bring the following materials to the event: Two sharpened pencils with erasers for the written exam on Friday. For the operational portion, a hard hat, safety glasses, gloves, ear protection, and a rag. Students are required to wear long pants, long-sleeved shirts, and hard-soled shoes or boots.

Sponsor is required to supply the following materials for the event:

- All equipment and materials needed for the event for three competition stations
- Course diagram
- Marking paint, cones, or flags – course layout
- 60 copies of written exam and answer sheets
- Final solution for written exam ready for scoring the students' tests
- Stopwatches
- Sufficient number of judges and event monitors
- Any other items deemed necessary for this event