

DRILLER

Drillers safely operate a variety of heavy drilling equipment for completing wells and bore holes into the ground to remove core samples during mineral exploration or soil testing, and to facilitate the use of explosives in mining. Drillers may use vertical or horizontal earth boring machines. A Driller must be comfortable with holding a position of high responsibility, work well under pressure and must work well with others. An individual seeking this position should be very observant of their surroundings and disciplined in following safety standards.

DRILLERS PERFORM THE FOLLOWING TASKS:

- Regulate air pressure, rotary speed and downward pressure according to the type of rock being drilled
- Verify depths and alignments of boring positions
- Monitor drilling operations, check gauges and listen to equipment to assess drilling conditions to determine the need to adjust drilling or alter equipment
- Start, stop and control drilling speed of machines and insertion of casings into holes
- Operate controls to stabilize machines, and to position and align drills
- Select and attach drill bits and rods, adding more rods as depths increase and changing drill bits as needed
- Drill bore holes in rock for blasting, grouting, anchoring or building foundations
- Operate machines to flush earth cuttings or to blow dust from holes
- Drive or guide truck, track or skid-mounted equipment into position, level and stabilize rigs, and extend telescoping derricks

PREPARATION AND TRAINING FOR THIS POSITION

A high school diploma or GED or some previous work-related experience is preferred for this job. Drillers usually need one year of experience, either by working as a Driller Helper with skilled Drillers or in an apprenticeship program.



EDUCATION:

- * **HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA OR GED**
- * **APPRENTICESHIP PREFERRED**

