



Operating a Tractor

Can youth do this job safely?

Youth must be able to do/have all of the following to perform this job safely:

- Reach and operate controls while wearing a seatbelt
- Strength to repeatedly operate controls
- Tall enough for **good field of vision** when seated on tractor
- Understand and consistently repeat a 10-step process
- Recognize a hazard, problem solve, and respond appropriately
- React quickly to hazards
- **Mature** enough to consistently do what is expected
- **Think through** actions and consequences before acting
- Avoid loose clothing, clothes with strings, tie up long hair
- Comply with the [working outdoors guideline](#)
- Safely demonstrate the job 4 to 5 times
- Maintain [two-way communication](#) link



Adult Responsibilities

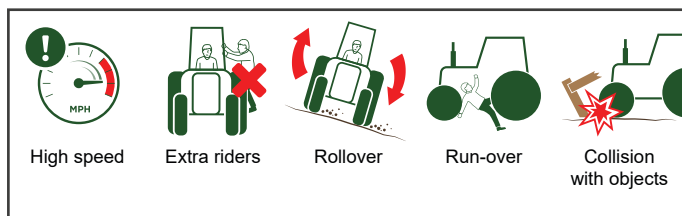
- Ensure tractor is mechanically sound and safety features are in place, including ROPS
- Review [developmental guidelines](#) to verify youth's ability to operate tractor
- Demonstrate how to safely drive tractor
- Provide appropriate training
- Educate youth to mount tractor using 3 points of contact
- Ensure work area is free from as many hazards as possible
- Educate youth on avoiding/addressing remaining hazards
- Ensure youth does not operate tractor after dark/in bad weather
- Train youth to call an adult if equipment malfunctions

Supervision

Note: Ensure tractor is sized appropriately for youth. Youth must be 16+ years to drive an articulated tractor. See [Tractor Operations Chart](#) for guidance.

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| 14-15 yrs | Intermittent supervision progressing to periodic |
| 16+ yrs | Periodic supervision |

Hazards



Protective Strategies

