Raymond Ellison

Locomotive Engineer

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Summary

FRA-certified locomotive engineer with 9 years in freight rail, including 6 years at the throttle on grain and manifest trains up to 14,000 tons. Strong in train handling on mountain grades with dynamic braking and distributed power, runs PTC territory under GCOR, and holds a clean rules and safety record.

Experience

Locomotive Engineer

Inland Northwest Railway — Spokane, WA — 05/2022 - Present

Regional railroad running 1,100 route miles between Spokane, the Palouse and the Idaho Panhandle.

- Operate grain and manifest trains up to **14,000** tons over a 210-mile subdivision with 1.8% ruling grades.
- Run distributed power and dynamic braking on loaded trains, with zero break-in-twos since 2022.
- Complete PTC initialization and locomotive inspections before every departure, with no FRA exceptions in 4 years.
- Cut fuel use 7% per gross ton-mile through steady train handling and throttle pacing on rolling territory.

Locomotive Engineer

Columbia Basin Railroad — Moses Lake, WA — 09/2020 - 04/2022

Short-line railroad serving potato processors, grain elevators and chemical plants.

- Ran local and road switching trains of 30-70 cars, making 15+ customer spots per shift.
- Passed 2 FRA check rides and 4 unannounced efficiency tests with zero exceptions.
- Mentored 3 conductors in engineer service through a 6-month training program.
- Handled 110-car unit grain trains on the branch line's 2% grades without a stall.

Conductor

Columbia Basin Railroad — Moses Lake, WA — 06/2017 - 08/2020

Freight conductor on local and road jobs before engineer training.

- Managed train paperwork, hazmat documents and track warrants for 500+ trips.
- Performed air brake tests and car inspections on trains up to 90 cars.
- Earned a spot in engineer training after 3 years with no rule violations.

Education

High School Diploma

Lewis and Clark High School
Spokane, WA
06/2014

Skills

Locomotive Operation	—	Train Handling	—	Dynamic Braking	—	Distributed Power
PTC	—	GCOR	—	Locomotive Inspections	—	Air Brake Tests
Track Warrants	—	Hazmat Documents				

Certificates

FRA Certified Locomotive Engineer (49 CFR Part 240)

Inland Northwest Railway
05/2022

Hazardous Materials Training (49 CFR 172.704)

Inland Northwest Railway
06/2025

FRA Certified Conductor (49 CFR Part 242)

Columbia Basin Railroad
06/2017