

WASTEWATER PLANT OPERATOR I
WASTEWATER PLANT OPERATOR II

*Class specifications are intended to present a descriptive list of the range of duties performed by employees in the class. Specifications are **not** intended to reflect all duties performed within the job.*

DEFINITION

Under supervision (Wastewater Plant Operator I) or general supervision (Wastewater Plant Operator II), to perform a variety of skilled technical duties and semi-skilled labor in the operation and maintenance of the City's wastewater treatment facility; to perform adjustments and repairs to plant equipment; to collect samples for laboratory testing; and to perform related duties as assigned.

CLASS CHARACTERISTICS

Wastewater Plant Operator I – This is the entry level class within the Wastewater Plant Operator series. Employees within this class are distinguished from the Wastewater Plant Operator II by the performance of the more routine tasks and duties assigned to positions within the series including semi-skilled maintenance duties involved in the operations and upkeep of plant equipment and facilities. Employees are required to possess a Grade I Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator Certificate. Positions in this class may be filled by advancement from the Wastewater Plant Operator-In-Trailing level, once proficiency is demonstrated and appropriate certification is obtained. However, advancement is based on the discretion of the Department Director and the organizational needs of the department. When filled from the outside, employees may have only limited related work experience.

Wastewater Plant Operator II – This is the journey level class within the Wastewater Plant Operator series. Employees within this class are distinguished from the Wastewater Plant Operator I by the performance of the full range of duties as assigned in the operations and upkeep of plant equipment and facilities. Employees are required to possess a Grade II Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator Certificate. Employees at this level receive only occasional instruction or assistance as new or unusual situations arise, and are fully aware of the operating procedures and policies of the work unit. Positions in this series are flexibly staffed and may be filled by advancement from the I level however, advancement is not based on time in grade but solely at the discretion of the Water Administration Director and the organizational needs of the department.

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES - *Examples of duties performed by employees in this class may not include all required duties, nor are all listed tasks necessarily performed by everyone in this class.*

Performs a variety of skilled or semi-skilled maintenance duties involved in the operation and upkeep of plant equipment and facilities; reads meters, gauges and charts; regulates wastewater flows in accordance with established procedures; collects water samples for laboratory testing procedures; assists in performing laboratory tests; maintains operating logs and records; operates and inspects plant equipment including pumps, valves, electric motors,

switch gear, compressors, blowers, chlorinators and engines; maintains and operates various work related vehicles including fork lifts; cleans and lubricates equipment; operates pumps and other allied equipment; inspects equipment to determine operating condition and makes necessary adjustments; performs general maintenance and repair of equipment utilized in and around plant; records instrument readings; changes chlorine tanks and cylinders; performs all necessary control tests and calculations to maintain efficient operations; adjusts proper chlorine dosage for odor control or disinfections; performs general janitorial and light maintenance repair work in and around the plant, including grounds keeping and painting; performs chemical tests; operates and controls sludge digesters and presses; operates aeration equipment as needed; records results of test and other measurements and plots data on graphs.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

WASTEWATER PLANT OPERATOR I

Knowledge of:

- Basic principles of wastewater treatment plant operations.
- Basic tools and equipment used in the operation and maintenance of motors, engines, pumps and other wastewater treatment plant equipment.
- Methods and techniques of preventive maintenance.
- Operational characteristics of wastewater treatment plant equipment and tools.
- Chemical and biological reactions in the treatment process.
- Basic laboratory practices and techniques.
- Basic mathematical principles.

Ability to:

- Perform a variety of maintenance duties.
- Perform inspections of treatment plant equipment.
- Learn principles and procedures of wastewater treatment plant operations.
- Learn to collect a variety of samples and conduct appropriate tests.
- Learn to operate a variety of wastewater treatment plant equipment in a safe and effective manner.
- Learn operational and safety regulations pertaining to wastewater or water treatment plant operations and vehicle and equipment usage.
- Learn to read and interpret gauges and other recording devices related to wastewater treatment.
- Learn pertinent Federal, State and local laws, codes and regulations.
- Maintain and update accurate records.
- Prepare clear and concise reports.
- Understand and follow oral and written instructions.
- Communicate clearly and concisely, both orally and in writing.
- Establish and maintain effective working relationships with those contacted in the course of work.

Experience and Training Guidelines

Experience: One year of experience relative to the operation and maintenance of a wastewater treatment facility, or an equivalent combination of prior work experience including assignment as a Wastewater Plant Operator-In-Training for the City of Oceanside.

Training: Equivalent to the completion of the twelfth grade supplemented by training in Water Treatment Operations or a related field.

License or Certificate:

- Possession of a Grade I Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator's certificate.
- Possession of an appropriate, valid driver's license.

WASTEWATER PLANT OPERATOR II

In addition to the qualifications for Wastewater Plant Operator I:

Knowledge of:

- Operations, services and activities of a wastewater treatment plant.
- Principles and procedures of wastewater treatment plant operations.
- Tools and equipment used in the operation and maintenance of motors, engines, pumps and other wastewater treatment plant equipment.
- Operational and safety regulations pertaining to wastewater or water treatment plant operations and vehicle and equipment usage.
- Principles of water sampling and testing.
- Pertinent Federal, State and local laws, codes and regulations.

Ability to:

- Operate and maintain wastewater treatment plant facilities.
- Collect a variety of water samples and conduct appropriate tests.
- Read and interpret gauges and other recording devices related to wastewater treatment.
- Operate plant equipment and appropriate vehicles.
- Operate office equipment including computers.
- Operate a variety of wastewater treatment plant equipment in a safe and effective manner.
- Work independently in the absence of supervision.

Experience and Training Guidelines

Experience: Two years of experience relative to the operation and maintenance of a wastewater treatment facility.

Training: Equivalent to the completion of the twelfth grade supplemented by training in Water Treatment Operations or a related field.

License or Certificate:

- Possession of a Grade II Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator's certificate.
- Possession of an appropriate, valid driver's license.

WORKING CONDITIONS

Environmental Conditions: Wastewater treatment plant environment; exposure to noise, dust, grease, smoke, fumes, gases, electrical energy, radiant energy, toxic materials, and inclement weather conditions; work in or with water and wastewater.

Physical Conditions: Essential functions may require maintaining physical condition necessary for standing, walking or bending for prolonged periods of time; heavy, moderate or light lifting; operating motorized equipment and vehicles.