



City of Lake Oswego, Oregon

Job Description

WATER PLANT OPERATOR I, II, III

FLSA Status: Non-exempt

Union Representation: LOMEA

Salary Grade: 137; 148; 160

Job Code: 4025; 4040; 4050

Class Summary

Under supervision of the Water Treatment Plant Manager or Assistant Manager, on an assigned shift, the Water Treatment Plant Operator operates, monitors and maintains mechanical, chemical, instrumentation and process control systems as necessary to ensure the Water Treatment Facility is operated in a manner which maximizes the protection of the public's health and the return on the public's investment in the City's water system. Incumbents classified at a lower level may be promoted to higher levels without further competition, subject to meeting the employment standards and requirements for the higher class.

Distinguishing Characteristics

The Water Plant Operator I is the entry level class, the Water Plant Operator II is the full working level class and the Water Plant Operator III is the advanced level class in the job classification series.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities

The list of duties is a representative sample of the work appropriate to this class and does not include all the duties that may be assigned to a particular position. The incumbent may perform a combination of some or all of the following duties:

1. Operates the Water Treatment Facility as required to achieve Water Treatment Facility water quality goals by altering the physical, chemical and microbiological properties of the water, and to ensure compliance with State drinking water standards including maintaining records of raw and finished water quality, determining correct dosing requirements for chemicals, sampling and reporting procedures, process adjustments, and appropriate response to emergency situations such as chemical releases.
2. Routinely inspects and performs preventative maintenance and repair as required on all Water Treatment Facility equipment and instruments including pumps, piping, valving, meters, process control instrumentation and sampling devices including maintaining records of such inspections, maintenance and repairs.
3. Routinely monitors and controls the operation of the City's water distribution system via its SCADA system via the master control station located in the Water Treatment Facility. Performs field checks of such facilities in response to alarm conditions as they occur and if assigned. Provides interface and support between the Water Treatment Facility and other City departments including maintenance, fire and police.

4. Assists in the proper unloading and storage of chemicals used in water treatment including Aluminum Sulfate, Sodium Hypochlorite, Sodium Hydroxide and polymers.
5. Prepare reports and maintain plant records to ensure State reporting requirements are met, perform mathematical calculations of chemical use, water production and quality and energy consumption.
6. Performs other duties of a similar nature and level.

Minimum Qualifications

Knowledge of:

- Local, state and federal standards, laws and regulations related to water treatment.
- OR-OSHA safety rules relating to maintenance and repair of equipment and handling and storage of chemicals used in the water treatment industry.
- Preventative maintenance of Water Treatment Facility equipment including diagnostic testing, lubrication and coatings.
- Math, algebra, physical sciences including chemistry, biology, hydraulics.
- Personal computers including file management and report development using various software programs including MS Word, Excel, and Access.
- Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition systems used in the water treatment and distribution industry.

Skills and Abilities to:

- Perform Operational Decision Making (ODM) of a water treatment facility.
- Analyze changing water quality conditions and how to initiate and validate process control and chemical feed changes in response to changing water quality.
- Perform equipment diagnosis to identify appropriate maintenance and repair.
- Provide good customer service.
- Comply with safety requirements of the position and actively promote safe work practices.
- Communicate effectively with coworkers, management, elected officials and the general public, and display excellent interpersonal skills and awareness of controversial and/or sensitive issues.

Education, Training and Experience:

A typical way of obtaining the knowledge, skills and abilities outlined above is with an Associate's degree in Biology, Environmental Science, or related field; or, an equivalent combination of education and experience sufficient to successfully perform the essential duties of the job such as those listed above.

Licensing and Other Requirements:

Positions in this classification are required to possess a valid driver's license and ability to meet the City's driving standards.

The following certifications and/or licenses may also be required:

Water Plant Operator I: State of Oregon Water Treatment certification grade 1.

Water Plant Operator II: State of Oregon Water Treatment certification grade 2. Filtration Endorsement may be required in lieu of prior experience working at a filtration plant.

Water Plant Operator III: State of Oregon Water Treatment certification grade 3. Filtration Endorsement may be required in lieu of prior experience working at a filtration plant.

Applicants with certifications from other states will be expected to acquire, by reciprocity, State of Oregon certifications within 6-months of hire for the grades identified above.

Duties will occasionally involve working in adverse or inclement weather conditions; exposure to high noise levels; dealing with distraught or difficult individuals; attending meetings or activities outside normal working hours; occasional response to emergency conditions during off-hours; and occasional operation of a motor vehicle on public roads.

Physical and Mental Demands

Frequent repetitive motions including, but are not limited to, hand, wrist and finger movements; daily walking, reaching, standing, talking, hearing and seeing. Heavy Physical Work: Must be able to move objects by exerting up to (50) pounds of force occasionally and/or up to (20) pounds of force frequently, and/or up to (10) pounds of force consistently.

May be required to stand for long periods of time, up to full length of shift; walk over rough terrain, up and down inclines, stairs, on paved and unpaved surfaces, and over long distances.

Persons with disabilities may be able to perform the essential duties of this class with reasonable accommodation. Reasonable accommodation will be evaluated on an individual basis and depend, in part, on the specific requirements for the job, the limitations related to disability and the ability of the hiring department to accommodate the limitation.

Department Director

Date

Human Resources Director

Date

Employee

Date

This job description does not constitute an employment agreement between the employer and employee and is subject to change by the employer as the needs of the employer and requirements of the job change.