

## CHIEF WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT OPERATOR

**DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS:** This is an important supervisory and technical position involving responsibility for the safe and efficient operation and maintenance of a Wastewater Treatment Plant. Some specific activities and required knowledges and minimum qualifications vary by type and class of plant operated. The work is performed under general direction with wide leeway allowed in planning and supervising plant operations including responses to emergency situations. Depending on a particular plant staffing, direct supervision may be exercised over shift operators, trainees, technicians, laboratory and maintenance personnel and others. Does related work as required.

**TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:** (Illustrative Only) Supervises the operation of the plant to assure the most efficient and economical use of equipment, supplies and manpower; Makes daily inspection of plant and plant machinery; Makes or supervises the physical and chemical test for control of plant operation; Supervises the treatment and disposal of sludge; Supervises the installation, maintenance, and repair of machinery; Assigns plant personnel to shifts; Instructs and supervises operators, trainees, technicians, and laboratory personnel in the operation and maintenance of plant equipment, safety precautions, procedures to be taken in emergency situations, and the performance and recording of various tests and gauge readings; Requisitions and maintains inventory of supplies, chemicals and equipment; Develops budget requests and maintains records and prepares periodic reports on the operation of the plant.

**FULL PERFORMANCE, KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES, AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:** **When assigned to a Type A or Type B Plant:** Good knowledge of the operations of a modern wastewater treatment plant; Good knowledge of the principles and applications of physics, chemistry and bacteriology as applied to wastewater treatment and disposal; Ability to supervise the operation and repair of pumps, valves and related mechanical and electrical equipment; Ability to make routine laboratory and field tests for control of plant operation; Ability to plan and supervise the work of subordinates; Mechanical aptitude; Alertness and dependability; Physical condition commensurate with the demands of the position.

**When assigned to a Type A Plant:** Thorough knowledge of the practices used and equipment required in the operation and maintenance of a Type A Wastewater Treatment Plant with facilities for the activated sludge process (including all modifications).

**When assigned to a Type B Plant:** Thorough knowledge of the practices used and equipment required in the operation and maintenance of a Type B Wastewater Treatment Plant with facilities for chemical precipitation, sludge vacuum filtration, sludge incineration, separate sludge digestion, or any other biological oxidation process other than the activated sludge and stabilization or oxidation pond process.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

**For Grades 1, 2, 1A and 2A:** Graduation from high school or possession of a New York State equivalency diploma and two years experience in a Wastewater Treatment Plant which included supervisory experience.

**For Grades 3 and 3A:** A. Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State registered two year college or university with an associates degree in applied science in one of the following curriculums approved by NYSDEC: Ecology and Environmental Technology from Paul Smith's College; OR Water Quality Monitoring from Ulster County Community College; OR Environmental Technology from SUNY-Morrisville; OR Water/Wastewater Technology from Crowder College and two years experience in a Wastewater Treatment Plant which included supervisory experience.

B. Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State registered two year college or university with an associates degree in applied science and 18 months of operating experience at a wastewater treatment plant (An Associate of Arts degree with 30 credit hours of math or science is considered equivalent to an Associate in Applied Science) and two years experience in a Wastewater Treatment Plant which included supervisory experience; OR

C. Graduation from high school or possession of a New York State equivalency diploma and three (5) years of operating experience at a wastewater treatment plant which included supervisory experience.

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