

GRAPHICS AIDE

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: Incumbent in this position performs a variety of specialized clerical activities requiring the operation of design software used in the composition, editing, layout and/or phototypesetting of materials which are either camera or press ready or prepared for creation of templates. Incumbents may either devote a majority of time to a single activity or to varying degrees to several activities. The position calls for exercise of independent judgment and application of prescribed procedures and methods related to the specialized nature of the work. This class differs from that of other clerical positions, such as typist, by the more complex nature of computer program proficiency and visual design duties required. The work is performed under general supervision. Supervision of others is not normally a responsibility of this position. Does related work as required.

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES: (Illustrative Only) Utilizes design software in preparation of headings, justifications, spacing, ruling, centering and column format to complete a variety of copy; Plans layouts, determines spacing, size, and style of type and rearranges, edits, and merges files to be used in preparing neat and accurate materials; Answers incoming telephone calls, takes verbal orders for composing or phototypesetting, including last minute additions, or deletions, and answers questions related to layout, design, and finished product; Engages in copy fitting by selecting appropriate font, size and leading necessary to complete copy layout; Recalls stored information to make changes, corrections, additions, or deletions to copy; Performs skilled and specialized typesetting in the operation of computerized design software to prepare forms, booklets, and brochures for printing; Rearranges, edits, calls back files to restyle or merge file copy, and corrects spelling, punctuation and/or grammatical errors in copies; Prepares layout for brochures, booklets, programs, charts, letterheads, posters, etc., by using design software; Proofreads and compiles final layout before reproduction, which may include photocopying, enlarging, reducing, cropping, or contact screening; Logs jobs in and out of the department, files returned originals, and answers questions regarding finished product or completed dates; Determines the appropriate software to use according to the type of documents to be prepared; Proofreads completed copy and corrects errors as required; Discusses layout and style with the customer to determine desired look of finished product such as paper, color, inks, folds, perforation, etc.; Enters command codes, such as size and style of type, and width and length of column prior to and during the actual typing; Keeps records of time and materials in layout preparation.

FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL

CHARACTERISTICS: Good knowledge of office terminology, procedures and equipment; Good knowledge of the English language, including proper spelling, punctuation, and grammatical usage; Ability to operate a computer utilizing design software; Ability to typeset copy; Ability to plan and lay out materials; Ability to work cooperatively with others; Skill in setting text; Manual dexterity; Physical condition commensurate with the demands of the position.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Either:

- A. Associate degree in printing, graphic arts technology, visual communications or advertising design; OR
- B. Graduation from high school or possession of a high school equivalency diploma and two years of experience involving copy layout and operation of design software or phototypesetting equipment; OR
- C. An equivalent combination of training and experience as defined by the limits of (A) and (B) above.

Note: Your degree must have been awarded by a college or university accredited by a regional, national, or specialized agency recognized as an accrediting agency by the U.S. Department of Education/U.S. Secretary of Education. If your degree was awarded by an educational institution outside the United States and its territories, you must provide independent verification of equivalency. A list of acceptable companies who provide this service can be found on the Internet at <http://www.cs.ny.gov/jobseeker/degrees.cfm>. You must pay the required evaluation fee.

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