

SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT OPERATOR

Distinguishing Features of the Class: The work involves responsibility during a shift for the efficient operation and maintenance of a sewage treatment facility with an activated sludge process plant. The work is performed under the general supervision of higher-level operators in accordance with established policy with leeway allowed for the exercise in independent judgment in planning and carrying out the details of the work. Supervision may be exercised over trainees and subordinate employees. Does related work as required.

Typical Work Activities:

- Starts and stops pumps, motors, air compressors and related equipment and machinery;
- Makes minor repairs to equipment and machinery;
- Records readings from meters and gauges;
- Treats and disposes of sludge;
- Adds chemicals;
- Collects samples of sludge and wastewater for testing;
- Performs necessary physical and chemical tests for control of plant operation;
- Assists in the instruction of trainees;
- Maintains a log of plant operations and related records;
- May supervises the work of laborers and other subordinate employees;
- Keeps a log of plant operations and related records;
- Performs custodial duties in connection with maintenance of buildings and grounds.

Full Performance Knowledge, Skills, Abilities and Personal Characteristics:

- Good knowledge of the practices used and the equipment required in the operation and maintenance of sewage treatment facility with an activated sludge process plant;
- Good knowledge of the operations of a modern sewage treatment plant;
- Working knowledge of the principles and applications of physics, chemistry and bacteriology as applied to sewage treatment and disposal;
- Skill in the operation and repair of pumps, valves and related mechanical and electrical equipment;
- Ability to read, understand and record data from gauges, scales and meters;
- Ability to make routine laboratory and field tests for control of plant operations;
- Ability to read plans and drawings;
- Ability to understand and carry out oral and written instructions;
- Mechanical aptitude;
- Alertness and dependability
- Physical condition commensurate with the demands of the position.

Minimum Qualifications:

Graduation from high school or New York State equivalency diploma **AND**

Plant whose designated plant point score is 76 points or greater:

Grade 4-A Operator:

- 1) Either:
 - a. Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State registered university or college with a Bachelor's Degree with thirty (30) credit hours of math and or science; **OR**

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- b. Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State registered university or college with a Associate's of Applied Science Degree (AAS) in a *NYSDEC approved curriculum and eighteen (18) months operating experience at a wastewater treatment plant; **OR**
 - c. Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State registered university or college with a Associate's of Applied Science Degree (AAS) and three (3) years operating experience at a wastewater treatment plant; **OR**
 - d. Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State registered university or college with a Associate's of Arts Degree (AA) with thirty (30) credit hours of math and or science and three (3) years operating experience at a wastewater treatment plant; **OR**
 - e. Six (6) years operating experience at a wastewater treatment plant; and
- 2) Completion of an appropriate approved course by the Commissioner, Department of Conservation; and
 - 3) Twenty-four (24) months operating experience at an activated sludge wastewater treatment plant with a point score of 76 or greater, and the ability to perform necessary tests.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT:

Possession of a Grade 4-A Chief Operator Certificate issued by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation at time of appointment.

Activated Sludge Plant whose designated plant score is 56-75:

Grade 3-A Operator:

- 1) Either:
 - a. Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State registered university or college with a Bachelor's Degree with thirty (30) credit hours of math and or science; **OR**
 - b. Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State registered university or college with a Associate's of Applied Science Degree (AAS) in a *NYSDEC approved curriculum; **OR**
 - c. Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State registered university or college with a Associate's of Applied Science Degree (AAS) and eighteen (18) months operating experience at a wastewater treatment plant; **OR**
 - d. Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State registered university or college with a Associate's of Arts Degree (AA) with thirty (30) credit hours of math and or science and eighteen (18) months operating experience at a wastewater treatment plant; **OR**
 - e. Three (3) years operating experience at a wastewater treatment plant; and
- 2) Completion of an appropriate approved course by the Commissioner, Department of Conservation; and
- 3) eighteen (18) months operating experience at an activated sludge wastewater treatment plant with a point score of 56 or greater, and the ability to perform necessary tests.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT:

Possession of a Grade 3-A certificate issued by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation at time of appointment.

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Activated Sludge Plant whose designated plant score is 31-55:

Grade 2-A Operator:

- 1) Completion of an appropriate approved course by the Commissioner, Department of Conservation; and
- 2) Twelve (12) months operating experience at an activated sludge wastewater treatment plant with a point score of 31 or greater, and the ability to perform necessary tests.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT:

Possession of a Grade 2-A certificate issued by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation at time of appointment.

Activated Sludge Plant whose designated plant score is 30 points or less:

Grade 1-A Operator:

- 1) Completion of an appropriate approved course by the Commissioner, Department of Conservation; and
- 2) Six (6) months operating experience at an activated sludge wastewater treatment plant, and the ability to perform necessary tests.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT:

Possession of a Grade 1-A certificate issued by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation at time of appointment.

NOTES:

*NYSDEC approved curriculum is one of the following:

- a. Ecology and Environmental technology from Paul Smith's College.
- b. Water Quality Monitoring and Environmental Control / Hazardous Waste from Ulster Community College.
- c. Environmental Technology from SUNY – Morrisville.
- d. Water / Wastewater Technology from Crowder College.

Attach a copy of operator certificate issued by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

Official College transcript or copy of New York State equivalency diploma (depending on how you qualify for the position)

Full text of the Requirements for Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator Certification may be viewed on the New York State Department of Environment Conservation web site at:

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/23831.html>

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CLASS: COMPETITIVE