

# TREATMENT PLANT OPERATOR IV (WTP)

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Position Code: 1758

WC Code: 7520

FLSA Status: Non-Exempt

Pay Grade: 350

Location: Public Services

Approval Date: 2022

## **General Statement of Duties**

Performs responsible operational, laboratory, and maintenance functions in a water treatment plant ensuring that the water treatment facilities are operated in strict accordance with regulations and rules; provide safe drinking water for all customers and residents.

## **Distinguishing Features of the Class**

An employee in this class performs a variety of operational, laboratory, and maintenance duties designed to produce safe treatment of potable water. Work is performed on an assigned or rotating shift. Work includes monitoring the plant's operation through observation, mechanical readings and the results of standard chemical and biological tests and to make necessary adjustments in the process as conditions or test results dictate. Other duties include performing standard laboratory duties and tests and assisting with plant and facilities maintenance. Work also includes substantial record keeping or work activities. Employees are subject to hazards associated water plant operations including working both inside and outside environments, in extreme hot and cold weather, and exposure to various hazards such as loud noises, moving mechanical parts, electrical current, chemicals, fumes, odors, dusts, mists, gases, poor ventilation, grease, and oils. Workers may be required to wear respirators when working around chemicals. Work is performed under general supervision and reviewed by observation, conference, and reviewing records for adherence to operations standards, instructions, and safety practices.

## **Duties and Responsibilities**

Monitors the status of plant operations and distribution systems

Assists other operators with addressing more complex situations

Troubleshoots operational problems

Collects representative samples

Performs standard laboratory chemical and biological testing

Backwashes filters

Refills chemical holding tanks; checks all tank levels

Answers and resolves customer questions and complaints

Maintains records

Tracks inventory

Performs routine plant maintenance such as cleaning, painting, minor repairs and assisting with major repairs.

Makes regular tours of plant and checks chemical feed equipment, engines, generators, motors, pumps, settling basins, filters, and other equipment to ensure proper operation.

Performs other duties as requested

## **Recruitment and Selection Guidelines**

### **Knowledge, Skills and Abilities**

Advanced knowledge of the operating characteristics and maintenance requirement of water treatment plants.

Advanced knowledge of applicable federal, state, and local laws, ordinances, and permitting requirements.

Advanced knowledge of the occupational hazards of the work and of necessary safety precautions.

Advanced knowledge of standard laboratory test and procedures used in a water treatment plant.

Advanced knowledge of hydraulic, chemical and mechanical principles pertinent to water treatment plant operations.

Ability to detect flaws in the operation of mechanical equipment and to determine proper remedial measures.

Ability to conduct advanced laboratory tests.

Ability to understand and follow complex oral and written instructions.

Ability to read meters, charts, and technical manuals and drawings accurately and to maintain records of shift operations.

Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with peers and superiors.

### **Physical Requirements**

The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

While performing the duties of this job, the employee is frequently required to reach with hands and arms, stand, sit, walk, use hands to finger and grasp, handle, feel or operate objects, tools, or controls and talk or hear. The employee is occasionally required to climb, balance, stoop, kneel and crouch. This position involves heavy work requiring the employee to exert up to 100 pounds of force occasionally; and/or up to 50 pounds of force frequently; and/or up to 20 pounds of force constantly to move objects. Lifts and carries heavy equipment and/or materials (up to 50 pounds) to perform assignments. Must possess the visual acuity to distinguish labels and colors, read gauges and dials, review and record written material, and operate lab equipment and a computer terminal.

The employee may be exposed to hazardous physical conditions (including but not limited to confined spaces, heights, mechanical parts, electrical currents, and vibration) poor atmospheric conditions (including but not limited to fumes, odors, dusts, gases, and poor ventilation), inadequate lighting, and intense noise. In addition, the work will require seasonal exposure to extreme weather conditions, snakes, insects, and wildlife common to water lines, underground utilities and construction sites.

### **Minimum Education and Experience**

A Bachelor's Degree from an accredited college or university and two years of directly related experience; or an Associate's Degree from an accredited community college and four years of directly related experience; or a High School Diploma or GED and six to eight years of directly related experience; or an equivalent combination of education and experience.

### **Special Requirements**

NC Water Operator's Grade A Certificate