

**WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT OPERATOR-IN-TRAINING****DEFINITION**

Under close supervision, receives training in the operation and maintenance of Wastewater Treatment Plant equipment and facilities.

**SUPERVISION RECEIVED/EXERCISED**

Receives supervision from a Wastewater Operations Supervisor. Receives lead direction from a Senior Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator. This classification does not exercise supervision.

**DISTINQUISHING CHARACTERISTICS**

Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator-in-Training is a training class for candidates qualified to learn the duties of a wastewater treatment plant Operator, as defined by the State Water Resources Control Board. Incumbents of this class undergo a formal training program in the operation of a wastewater treatment plant under the direct supervision of a certified operator while gaining experience to qualify for an Operator certificate. Failure to successfully complete the training program will be cause for termination. Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator-in-Training is distinguished from Wastewater Treatment Plant Technician in that the latter is the entry level class in which incumbents who are certified by the State may perform a full range of routine assignments without close supervision.

**EXAMPLES OF IMPORTANT AND ESSENTIAL DUTIES**

*May include, but are not limited to, the following:*

Receives training to control the treatment of wastewater through the operation of pumps, motors, and valves utilizing manual, automatic and programmable systems.

Receives training to monitor the performance of wastewater unit processes by a variety of methods through visual observation, physical measurement, sampling, testing, data collection/analysis, and mathematical calculations.

Receives training and utilizes a local area computer network and distributed control system in the routine operation and monitoring of the treatment facility and the collection and maintenance of plant operational data.

Receives training on and collects representative samples from various plant flows and unit processes for laboratory analysis.

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Receives training on and performs minor routine preventive maintenance and troubleshooting of plant equipment, to maintain operating efficiency.

Receives training on and maintains proper appearance and cleanliness of equipment and facilities.

Receives training on and operates other related systems such as a digester gas system and associated equipment, secondary effluent disposal and water reclamation systems.

Performs related duties as required.

### **JOB RELATED AND ESSENTIAL QUALIFICATIONS**

#### **Knowledge of:**

The use of basic tools.

#### **Skill/Ability to:**

Use tools necessary to operate and maintain pumps and other related plant equipment.

Operate a motor vehicle safely.

Perform mathematical calculations at a level necessary for the completion of assigned duties.

Learn the occupational hazards and safety precautions related to the operation of mechanical/electrical equipment.

Learn the operation and maintenance of mechanical/electrical equipment.

Read meters and gauges correctly.

Learn the procedures and safety requirements of working in confined spaces.

Follow oral and written instructions and make brief reports on plant operations.

Learn the characteristics and safety requirements of the use of various chemicals used in the wastewater treatment industry, e.g., chlorine, ferric/ferrous chloride, polymer, etc.

Learn the various operational procedures and safety practices involved in the day-to-day operation of a wastewater plant.

Learn and utilize a local area computer network and distributed control system in the routine operating and monitoring of the treatment facility and the collection and maintenance of plant operational data.

## **MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS**

### **Education:**

Possession of a High school diploma or equivalent GED completion.

AND

Three (3) units of accredited college or university course work in math or science. Six (6) educational points as deemed acceptable by the State Water Resources Control Board may be substituted for the required college units

### **Special Requirement(s):**

Possession of a valid California Class C Driver's License is required at the time of application and continued maintenance throughout the entire term of employment in this classification.

Must file for a Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator-in-Training Certificate issued by the State Water Resources Control Board at time of appointment.

This classification is in a flexibly-staffed series, which allows incumbents to flex to the Wastewater Treatment Plant Technician after obtaining the Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator Grade I Certificate. While in the Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator-in-Training class, incumbents will not achieve permanent status within the classified service, as defined in Fresno Municipal Code Section 3-202(p)(5).

Failure to obtain the Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator Grade I Certificate within two (2) years of appointment will be cause for termination from this classification.

## **PHYSICAL DEMANDS**

The physical demands described here are representative of those that are necessary to safely, effectively, and efficiently perform the essential functions of this job with or without reasonable accommodation.

This classification's physical demands involve heavy work exerting up to 100 pounds of force occasionally with assistance, and/or up to 50 pounds of force frequently, and/or up to 20 pounds of force constantly to move objects. Additionally, the following physical demands may be required: balancing, climbing, crawling, crouching, feeling, manual dexterity, grasping, handling, hearing, kneeling, lifting, mental acuity, pulling, pushing, reaching, repetitive motion, speaking, standing, stooping, talking, visual acuity, walking.

APPROVED: Signature on File DATE: 10/20/2025  
Director of Personnel Services

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