

WATER SYSTEM TRAINEE

DEFINITION

Under close supervision, receives training in the maintenance, construction and the distribution of potable and recycled water operation of the City's water systems.

SUPERVISION RECEIVED/EXERCISED

Receives supervision from a Manager or designee. This classification does not exercise supervision.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS

This is a training class for candidates qualified to learn the duties of a Water Technician in the Water Distribution/ Production and Water Quality series. Incumbents of this class undergo training in the testing, cleaning, maintenance, inspection, repair, installation, replacement, surface and groundwater treatment, distribution, construction and operation of City's water system infrastructures, under technical guidance while gaining experience to qualify for a D1 or T1 Operator certificate. This class is distinguished from Water Technician in that incumbents of the latter are certified by the State of California and may independently repair, maintain, and install water systems. Dependent upon business necessity, incumbents may be assigned to work in distribution, or water quality.

EXAMPLES OF IMPORTANT AND ESSENTIAL DUTIES

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

Receives training and assists with the installation, maintenance, and repairs of water mains, valves, meters, fire hydrants, pressure regulators, pumps and tanks, surface and groundwater treatment equipment, distribution, production equipment, and other water system infrastructures.

Assists in the assembly, installation, maintenance, and removal of traffic control devices/signs.

Cleans, fuels, and prepares City vehicles and equipment for operation.

Performs a variety of unskilled and semiskilled duties involving light or heavy manual labor in maintenance and construction throughout the City.

Receives training and assists with operating and servicing equipment used in the repair, installation and maintenance of water system infrastructures including, but not limited to, compressors, jackhammers, backhoes, trenchers, tractors, trucks, and any other assigned light and heavy equipment.

Makes minor adjustments on service equipment; maintains tools and equipment.

Receives training and performs field duties related to the water system; takes surface water, groundwater and distribution system sampling as required. .

Receives training on and excavates trenches and installs shoring as required by Cal OSHA rules and regulations.

Receives training on and assists with minor concrete work, e.g., around hydrants, meter boxes, and pouring hydrant pads, pump pedestals and short sections of sidewalks and curbs.

Receives training on and assists with underground service alert locating, marking, notification, and pavement markings.

Wears and uses applicable Personal Protective Equipment consistent with state mandates as required.

Performs related work as required.

JOB RELATED AND ESSENTIAL QUALIFICATIONS

Knowledge of:

Common hand and power tools and equipment.

Basic custodial, equipment, building, or grounds maintenance practices.

Safe work practices and policies.

Skill/Ability to:

Operate a motor vehicle safely.

Learn the duties of a Production/Distribution or Quality Technician.

Perform light and heavy manual labor for extended periods and under adverse weather conditions.

Learn the occupational hazards and safety precautions of the trade.

Learn and follow assigned department rules, regulations, and procedures.

Understand and follow oral and written instructions.

Complete daily reports and forms.

Read and write English at the level necessary to perform the job.

Work on an assigned schedule or route and work alone on assigned routine tasks.

Safely operate light equipment and various hand tools.

Perform confined space entry.

Establish and maintain effective working relationships.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Education:

Possession of a High School Diploma or equivalent GED completion

Experience:

Six (6) months of continuous, full-time paid general labor or comparable experience.

Special Requirement(s):

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

Incumbents must obtain a minimum of Water Distribution or Treatment Operator Certificate, Grade D1 or T1 (depending on assignment), from the State Water Resources Control Board within the two (2) year period following appointment. Failure to obtain Water Distribution or Treatment Operator Certification, Grade D1 or T1 (depending on assignment) within two (2) years of appointment will be cause for termination from this class.

This class is in a flexibly-staffed series, which allows incumbents to flex to Water Distribution/Production Technician or Water Quality Technician after obtaining the Water Distribution or Treatment Operator Certificate, Grade D1 or T1 (depending on assignment).

While in this class, incumbents will not achieve permanent status within the classified service, as defined in Fresno Municipal Code Section 3-202(p)(5).

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
Director of Personnel Services

DATE: 10/20/2025

NEW: JTC:scm: 9/28/2020
Revised: EVG/C&C: 10/20/2025