



PLANT EQUIPMENT TRAINEE (WASTEWATER OPERATIONS) (Exempt Position)

Annual Salary: \$67,964.40

Class Code: 1107-2

Resumes accepted only during the identified filing period.

Filing period Monday, May 16, 2022, through Friday, May 20, 2022 11:59 p.m.

DUTIES

Wastewater Operator Trainee is a temporary training class which provides incumbents with on-the-job training to prepare for promotion into a Wastewater Treatment Operator (WTO-1) for the City of Los Angeles. As of the printing of this notice, there are 10 positions available. An incumbent performs a variety of tasks under the direct supervision of a certified operator while gaining experience to qualify for the state issued license. Training will include both classroom instruction and field experience. After completion of 1,800 hours of field experience, the Wastewater Operator Trainee may be assigned to work station posts with minimal oversight. The working conditions in this class are unpleasant due to the presence of wastewater and its products. Some personal hazards may be involved in working in high places, around moving machinery, and in contact with toxic gases and chemicals such as chlorine, sulfur dioxide, or coagulants. The regular work hours will vary between Monday through Friday, 6:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Additionally, trainees may be required to work nights, weekends, and/or holidays as needed.

Wastewater Operator Trainees will be expected to perform all or some of the duties listed below. This list is not exhaustive but is representative of the expected duties: operate and control equipment; inspect equipment and monitor operating conditions, meters, and gauges to determine load requirements and detect and correct problems; add chemicals, such as sodium hypochlorite, ferrous chloride, ferric chloride, polymers to enhance treatment of wastewater; collect wastewater and sludge samples and perform routine field tests; record operational and laboratory data observations of processes; use reasonable care in the performance of duties, and act in a manner to assure safety to themselves, co-workers, and the public; perform housekeeping as needed, clean and maintain equipment; and perform other duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS

Listed are some of the essential abilities a Wastewater Operator Trainee will be required to demonstrate to obtain a position: ability to develop the necessary skills to perform the duties of the position for which training is provided; ability to make basic mathematical calculations; ability to understand and follow oral and written directions; ability to communicate in writing sufficient to maintain a daily operating log; ability to interact successfully with supervisors and coworkers; and ability to record and interpret readings of meters and gauges. **High school diploma or equivalent is required;** Successful completion of college level courses in wastewater operation or science is required within four weeks from date of hire.

Because this class has been designated as Safety Sensitive in accordance with City policy, a drug and alcohol screening test may be required prior to appointment.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

If you are seeking this position, you are interested in becoming a certified Wastewater Treatment Operator. The certification for this position is issued by the State of California, State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB). SWRCB has specific academic and field experience requirements that must be met in order to obtain a certificate. This program is designed to provide the 1,800 hours of field experience required to obtain the state issued certification. If you are selected for this position, you must complete the academic requirements in addition to field experience. There are many options for completing the academic requirements. You should review the academic requirements and options that are available at the SWRCB web site listed below or by contacting the SWRCB. However, a typical community college certification program requires the student to complete a program of study totaling some 23 to 28 units in wastewater and related topics. Certification by the State of California requires the qualified individual to pass a State examination, which is offered each April and October. http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/operator_certification/pub.shtml

At the time of appointment, Trainees must have a valid California Driver License; must have a high school diploma or equivalent; have or obtain six (6) educational points in wastewater treatment or science courses within four weeks; obtain an Operator-in-Training (OIT) certificate issued by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) within four weeks from date of hire; obtain a Grade-I Operator license within established time limits set by SWRCB, currently two years from the date the OIT certificate is issued; and pass the City of Los Angeles Wastewater Treatment Operator examination and be appointed to the class of Wastewater Treatment Operator within three years of hire as a Wastewater Operator Trainee. .

Note: Wastewater Operator Trainee will be terminated from the position if any of the above requirements are not met.

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS

Prospective candidates must be able to lift and carry tools and chemical containers up to 50 pounds. Based on CAL/OSHA regulations, which require the wearing of a Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) under hazardous and emergency conditions, some positions may require employees of this class to be free from certain types of facial hair and medical conditions so that a SCBA can be worn safely.

HOW TO APPLY

Candidates interested in applying for these positions must email a resume, with details of knowledge, education, and/or experience in Wastewater Treatment or similar areas to:

EMAIL: san.petc@lacity.org
The subject line should read:
PLANT EQUIPMENT TRAINEE ATTN: STAFF

Resumes must be received by 11:59 p.m., Friday, May 20, 2022.

METHOD OF EVALUATING CANDIDATES

Preliminary Screening

In accordance with Civil Service Rule 4.2, all applicants who apply may not be tested in this examination. Based on the number of applications, staff will screen the resumes. Candidates are asked to specify any wastewater education, experience, and/or knowledge on the resume or application. If the candidate pool is sufficiently large, this information will be used to screen candidates who have demonstrated an interest in this field. Candidates who pass the preliminary screening will be invited to a basic aptitude test session.

Aptitude Test

The aptitude test will consist of multiple choice questions covering wastewater treatment, reading comprehension, basic math, and mechanical aptitude. The invited candidates will be informed of the test date and location which will be at the Hyperion Water Reclamation Plant, in Playa Del Rey, California. The aptitude test will be scored pass or fail. The passing score for the Aptitude Test will be determined by LA Sanitation staff after the test is administered based on the number of candidates taking the test and the existing and anticipated number of vacancies. Therefore, the passing score for the Aptitude Test may be set either above or below 70%. Candidates invited to the aptitude test will be required to complete a City of Los Angeles Employment Application. The aptitude test will be administered on **June 18, 2022**. It is not anticipated that there will be additional test dates; however, if necessary, additional test dates will be scheduled.

Oral Interview and Ranking

Candidates who pass the aptitude test will be scheduled for an oral interview. In the interview, candidates will be tested on oral communication skills, interpersonal skills, reasoning and logic and any knowledge related to wastewater treatment. The interview score will represent 100% of the candidates overall score in this process. Candidates will be ranked based on their interview scores. It is anticipated that the interviews will be held during the period of **July 25, 2022 through August 5, 2022**.

The top candidates will be considered for positions. These candidates will be required to pass background checks, finger printing, and medical examinations prior to commencing employment. In the event of a tie score, an additional interview may be required and the aptitude score may be considered.

NOTES:

1. EXEMPT POSITIONS

This position is a temporary training classification. Incumbents may remain in this classification only during the specified training period. Incumbents in this classification must meet the requirements for Wastewater Treatment Operator and promote to Wastewater Treatment Operator within the specified time period.

2. As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and, upon request, will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services, and activities.

The City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, disability, creed, color, ancestry, medical condition (cancer), or Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome.