



Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator

SALARY RANGE

\$47,666 - \$52,704 annually

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Graduation from a high school or possession of a New York State High School Equivalency diploma, plus one (1) year of work experience, or its part-time equivalent, in the actual operation** of a wastewater treatment plant, which will include, but are not limited to: takes samples of wastewater and laboratory testing on these samples; keep a log of plant operations and related records; start, stop and adjust pumps, motors, air compressors, and related machinery and equipment; record readings from meters and gauges

OR

Successful completion of thirty (30) credit hours from a regionally accredited college or university or one accredited by the NYS Board of Regents to grant degrees in a program of Public Health Technology, Environmental Technology, Environmental Studies or Sciences, or the Water Wastewater Technology option of Science Laboratory Technology, approved by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

OR

An equivalent combination of training and experience as defined above

NOTE: Satisfactory completion of the New York State Operator's Course for Wastewater Treatment Plant Operators and New York State Laboratory Course for Wastewater Treatment Plant Operators and New York State Activated Sludge Course for Wastewater Treatment Plant Operators may be substituted for the above minimum qualifications.

**Experience in wastewater treatment plant maintenance alone, either mechanical or electrical, is not qualifying.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT: Prior to completion of probationary period, must obtain Grade 1A Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator Certification

It's an exciting time to work at the Department of Water Environment Protection (WEP). We're advancing our department's mission by putting our community at the heart of what we do – whether its investing in renewable technologies or improving the existing sewer infrastructure. WEP's Operations division directly benefits the Onondaga County community by ensuring every drop of water we use returns to nature properly cleaned and without harmful pollutants.

Work Activities

During a typical workday, operators perform a wide variety of tasks. This includes routine inspections of equipment and monitoring conditions, meters, and gauges to determine operating requirements and detect any malfunctions. You may also be tasked with cleaning and maintaining tanks, filter beds, and other work areas. To ensure everything is running correctly, you'll collect and test water and sewage samples and record readings from meters and gauges, adjusting operations or processes based on the results.

Treatment plants run 24/7 every day of the year. Operators work on a rotating work schedule and in all types of conditions: indoors and outdoors, noisy and odorous.

Skills

- Good knowledge of the practices used and the equipment required in the operation of the wastewater treatment plant.
- Working knowledge of elementary principles of chemistry and general sciences as applied to wastewater treatment and disposal.
- Ability to operate pumps, valves, and mechanical equipment.
- Ability to read, understand and record data from gauges, scales and meters.
- Ability to understand and carry out oral and written instructions.
- Ability to work well as a team member.
- Ability to participate in rotational on-call program to include nights, weekends, and holidays.
- Physical condition commensurate with the demands of the position.

When required to operate motor vehicles, employees must possess a valid non-CDL or CDL with appropriate endorsements as required by the New York State Department of Motor Vehicles for the class of vehicle(s) being operated.

Career Advancement Opportunities



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