

CLASS SPECIFICATION
SAN DIEGO CITY CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION
WATER PLANT OPERATOR - 1988

DEFINITION:

Under general supervision, to operate designated potable water treatment plant equipment on an assigned shift; and to perform related work.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS:

This is the fully experienced or journey-level class in the Water Plant Operator series. Incumbents of this class are designated as the “in charge operator” on an assigned shift and may coordinate and assign the work of Assistant Water Plant Operators and Plant Operator Trainees in specific plant operation activities on a daily basis. However, they do not have supervisory responsibilities such as rating work performance, hiring, and disciplining subordinates, and establishing overall work schedules for subordinate co-workers. Positions classified at this level may be underfilled with Assistant Water Plant Operators or Plant Operator Trainees in accordance with the City’s Career Advancement Program.

*** EXAMPLES OF DUTIES:**

- At a potable water treatment plant, operates and checks the operation of electric service pumps, valves, backup emergency generator, and other water treatment equipment;
- Determines need and regulates flow of water through plant according to anticipated demand and water quality considerations;
- Performs tests for chlorine residual, pH, alkalinity, turbidity, taste, and odor of water; adjusts and calibrates feed machinery for a variety of chemicals such as lime, activated carbon, chlorine, $KMnO_4$, and other normal treatment chemicals to keep treatment at prescribed standards;
- Observes loss of head and rate of flow indicators on filter controls;
- Operates valves to backwash filters;
- Reads and records reservoir gauges and meters;
- Takes air and deep water temperature readings and water samples;
- Maintains operating logs; keeps plant clean and orderly; reports malfunctioning equipment;
- Calls for maintenance assistance in the event of serious breakdowns;
- Assists in training subordinates;
- Reports on the work of subordinate operators;
- Keeps records and reports including volume of water pumped from reservoirs and amount of chlorine flow per hour;
- Assists in conducting plant tours for the public;
- Checks for plant security.

*** EXAMPLES OF DUTIES performed by employees in this class. The list may not include all required duties, nor are all listed tasks necessarily performed by everyone in this class.**

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

Please note: the minimum qualifications stated below are a guide for determining the education, training, experience, special skills, and/or license which may be required for employment in the class. These are re-evaluated each time the position is opened for recruitment. Please refer to the most recent Job Description for updated minimum qualifications: <https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/sandiego/classspecs>.

Possession of a Grade T3 or higher Water Treatment Operator's Certificate issued by the State of California Department of Health Services. Possession of a valid California Class C Driver's License.