

Oskaloosa Water Department Job Description

WATER PLANT OPERATOR

Job Summary:

Provides technical services to sustain proper operation of the Water Treatment Plant, including monitoring system processes, interpreting variances, making corrections and maintaining operational records.

Essential Job Functions shall include but are not limited to the following:

- Operates and monitors water treatment, filtration and pumping equipment, including wells, lime slaking machine, chemical feeding equipment, sludge removal, filters, tower levels, all support and computer control systems used in the water treatment process.
- Determines pumping rates to the system through analysis of operational data.
- Collects and analyzes samples using automatic and manual sampling equipment.
- Collects data from recorders, gauges, computer console and various instruments.
- Makes written and computer keyboard entries to record water quality data and operational information. Prepares and maintains required reports and records.
- Interprets information obtained, troubleshoots problems and makes necessary adjustments.
- Performs laboratory tests and other tests as may be required.
- Monitors supplies of chemicals and other supplies to insure proper inventory.
- Receives and stocks chemical shipments.
- Operates and monitors other plant processes as required.
- Monitors supplies of chemicals and other supplies to insure proper inventory.
- Receives and stocks chemical shipments.
- Operates and monitors other plant processes as required.
- Performs all work duties and activities in accordance with Water Department policies, procedures, and safety practices.
- Attends work regularly as scheduled.
- Performs related work as required.
- Maintains work areas in an orderly, clean and safe manner. Cleans process equipment and work areas using shovels, hoses, brooms, brushes and other equipment as needed.
- Performs simple maintenance tasks as needed.
- Wears and properly uses safety equipment including personal protective equipment as may be required.

Required Knowledge and Abilities:

- Knowledge of the procedures, mechanical systems, methods and techniques required for the operations of a treatment and pumping process under optimum operating conditions and for maintenance and emergency actions.
- Knowledge of safety practices and standards.
- Ability to work without supervision and exercise discretionary control over treatment procedures.
- Ability to accurately perform mathematical computations.

- Ability to read and write and understand the specialized vocabulary of water treatment and distribution systems.
- Ability to use the tools and equipment associated with a water treatment plant and distribution system, including the following: computer, calculator, hand tools, laboratory equipment, personal protective equipment, gas detectors, and self-contained breathing apparatus.
- Knowledge of federal, state and local regulatory requirements for water treatment plant operations.

Minimum Educational Qualifications:

High School diploma or equivalent.

Required Special Qualifications:

Possession of an Iowa Grade II Water Treatment Operator Certification, and ability to pass Grade III certification within 18 months of appointment.

Essential Physical Abilities:

Requires the following, with or without reasonable accommodations:

- Clarity of speech and hearing which permits the employee to communicate effectively.
- Sufficient vision, which permits the employee to read gauges, and operate equipment and tools.
- Sufficient manual dexterity which permits the employee to operate equipment.
- Sufficient physical strength to occasionally lift 50 lbs., frequently lifts 20 lbs. and constantly lift 10 lbs.
- Sufficient personal mobility which permits the employee to participate in confined space entries and emergency response.
- Sufficient hearing to differentiate machine operational sounds.
- Sufficient ability to frequently walk, stand, balance, crawl, grasp, squat, bend, kneel, and reach above and below shoulder heights, twist, feel, talk, hear, see, and perform repetitive motion.
- Occasionally work extended shifts and work various shift schedules.

Environmental Conditions:

Exposure to Weather

Occasional exposure to extreme cold

Occasional exposure to extreme heat

Wet and/or humid conditions

Exposure to dust and fumes

Proximity to moving mechanical parts

Exposure to toxic/caustic chemicals

Exposure to loud noises

OMWD offers a highly competitive wage and benefit package including health insurance and IPERS retirement. Introductory wages shall be based on certifications and relative experience.