

Title: Water Chemist
PG: 56
Status: Civil Service
Position Reports to: Designated Supervisor
Department: Water Utilities/Water Production

Class Code: 2080
Date: 09/08

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF CLASS:

This is a technical laboratory and analytical work at a professional level involving the performance of a variety of chemical, bacteriological and physical tests for the City water supply, treatment and distribution systems. Work involves compliance responsibility in accordance with prescribed procedures and techniques as required by the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act and Florida Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services. Employee in this classification also performs some research work designed to improve plant operation and may be assigned duties in operations when required. Supervision consists mainly of evaluation of records and reports, observation of laboratory housekeeping and general discussions. Work is also subject to periodic analysis of Public Health Agencies.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:

1. Supervises and participates in conducting routine bacteriological examinations on a regular basis as required under Florida Statutes.
2. Analyzes system waters to optimize treatment for hygienic safety, palatability, economy and advises operation personnel.
3. Maintains in place a qualified quality control/lab management system in accordance with state requirements.
4. Devises procedures, analysis and scheduling of all chemical tests to afford compliance with the requirements of the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act and Florida Primacy.
5. Prepares and submits required written analytical reports or laboratory findings and recommendations.

ADDITIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Responsible for seeing that all requirements of Chapter 61-550, 62-551, 62-552, 62-555, 62-560, F.A.C. are adhered to.
2. Responsible for maintaining State Certification in accordance with Chapter 468, Florida Statutes, Sections: 540-552 and Chapter 61E12-41 F.A.C.
3. Performs related work as required.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS & ABILITIES:

1. Knowledge of standard laboratory principles, techniques, terminology, equipment, materials and safety procedures.
2. Ability to perform quickly and accurately standard bacteriological and chemical analysis as outlined in the current edition of "Standard Methods for the Analysis of Water and Wastewater".
3. Ability to understand and give concise oral or written instructions and to produce written reports.

WORKING ENVIRONMENT/CONDITIONS:

Requires sedentary work that involves walking or standing some of the time, exerting up to 10 pounds of force on a recurring basis, routine keyboard operations.
The job risks exposure to some significant environmental hazards to include chemicals, inside and outside environmental conditions, bright/dim lights and extreme noise levels.
The job requires normal visual acuity, field of vision, hearing, speaking, color perception, sense of smell, depth perception, and texture perception.

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QUALIFICATIONS (EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND EXPERIENCE):

1. Graduation from an accredited four (4) year college or university with major in microbiology, biology, chemistry or a closely related field.
2. One (1) year of experience in sanitary microbiology, including six (6) months or experience in qualitative and quantitative chemical analysis in the field of water treatment.
3. An equivalent combination of education and experience that is determined to be directly related to the foregoing specific requirements may be substituted.
4. Completion of City University Level one (1) or completion within twelve (12) months.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:

1. Must possess a valid state of Florida Driver's License.
2. Must maintain a valid home telephone number.
3. Possession of state of Florida Class "C" Water Treatment Plant Operator Certification recommended but not required.
4. May be required to work overtime, or alternate hours, as necessary for the efficient operation of the department. Position may be designated as Mission Critical by Department Director.