

## WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT LABORATORY TECHNICIAN

**DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS:** The work involves responsibility for performing a variety of laboratory tests and analyses at a wastewater treatment plant in order to insure that the plant is operating properly and to predict and prevent or correct problems which may develop in the system. The work is carried out in accordance with established methods and procedures and involves strict adherence to laboratory safety practices. The work is performed under the general supervision of a higher level employee with leeway allowed in performing work in accordance with professional standards. Supervision of others is not normally a function of the class. Does related work as required.

**TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:** The typical work activities listed below, while providing representative examples of the variety of work assignments in the title do not describe any individual position. Incumbents in this title may perform some or all of the following, as well as other related activities not described.

Takes samples for testing at various stages of the treatment process;

Performs a variety of tests, both bacteriological and chemical such as: Biological Oxygen Demand, Chemical Oxygen Demand, Fecal Coliform, pH, Settleable Solids, Suspended Solids, etc.;

Maintains laboratory in safe and sanitary condition;

Sterilizes equipment;

Maintains laboratory inventory and orders equipment and supplies;

Keeps a variety of test result records as required;

Prepares reports as required.

### **FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGES, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL**

**CHARACTERISTICS:** Good knowledge of standard laboratory methods and procedures; good knowledge of laboratory safety practices; working knowledge of the principles and applications of physics, chemistry and bacteriology as applied to wastewater treatment and disposal; good knowledge of testing requirements for the efficient control of a wastewater treatment facility; working knowledge of reporting requirements of a wastewater treatment facility; skill at performing laboratory tests appropriate to the efficient control of a wastewater treatment facility; ability to understand and follow oral and written directions; ability to prepare reports; accuracy; physical condition commensurate with the demands of the position.

### **MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:** Either:

- A. Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State registered college or university with an Associate's Degree in Environmental Chemistry, Water Quality Management or a related field in which degree requirements included courses in chemistry with chemistry lab and biology with biology lab at the college level; **OR**

B. Possession of a Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator Certificate issued by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation appropriate to the plant for which the applicant will be employed and two (2) years of full-time work experience at a wastewater treatment plant where a substantial portion of the work involved the performance of laboratory tests; **AND**, successful completion of the following:

1. Two (2) semesters of college level chemistry (which included lab requirements); **AND**
2. Two (2) semesters of college level biology (which included lab requirements); **AND**
3. One semester of college level mathematics.

ULSTER COUNTY  
7620 WW LAB TEC  
(Formerly Sewage Treatment Plant Laboratory  
Technician)  
Classification: Competitive  
OA

Adopted: July 17, 1990  
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