

SENIOR EQUIPMENT OPERATOR

DEFINITION

Under general supervision, operates heavy power-driven grounds equipment as a regular assignment; performs a variety of semi-skilled and skilled maintenance and repair work related to the operation of irrigation systems; and performs related work as required.

CLASS CHARACTERISTICS

A major portion of the job duties requires strong skill level in all aspects of heavy-duty equipment, irrigation installation, and maintenance. Incumbent is expected to work independently in the revamping of fields, preparing the irrigation areas, and troubleshooting problem areas such as athletic fields, irrigation and draining systems.

LICENSE REQUIRED

Possession of a valid California class A driver's license. Incumbents required to obtain class A license at own expense within six (6) months of regular employment. Ability to get backflow license within six (6) months of date of hire.

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES

Performs skilled operation of tractors, semi-trucks, roll-off trucks and trailers, large power mowers, sweepers, rollers, jackhammers, chain saws, compressors, cement mixers, power edgers, power trimmers, back-hoe trenching equipment, skip loader, bobcat, boom truck, and other grounds maintenance equipment. *E*

Assists in training other equipment operators and takes the lead role in major projects. *E*

Investigates reported problems with fields to determine if irrigation is proper, troubleshoots problems, repairs and/or replaces sprinkler heads, finds and repairs hydraulic leaks, replaces failed valves and pipes. *E*

Converts existing irrigation systems from hydraulic to electric. *E*

Assists in the planning and designing of new lateral lines; installs, replaces or repairs PVC, copper, and galvanized irrigation piping, laterals and main lines, electrical, sewer and gas lines, broken valves, hose lines, hydraulic and electronic controls; system pumps; irrigation booster pumps; and installs and wires irrigation clocks. *E*

Estimates costs, and records time, labor and materials for projects. *E*

Reads and works from blueprints. *E*

Services and may make repairs to the grounds equipment. *E*

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES (cont.)

Rolls, smoothes, and prepares ground for planting of lawns. *E*

Levels ground and builds mounds for athletic fields. *E*

Hauls dirt, trash, and other materials. *E*

Mows lawn and fields as assigned. *E*

Sharpens lawn mowers as assigned. *E*

Performs a wide range of general grounds keeping duties. *E*

Performs related work as required.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Knowledge of:

1. Operation, use, and maintenance of power-driven grounds equipment;
2. Sweat soldering and welding;
3. Hydraulics and electricity;
4. Transformers, pumps, vacuum breakers;
5. Irrigation systems;
6. Proper methods, materials, tools, and equipment used in power-driven grounds equipment;
7. Simple record keeping;
8. Appropriate safety precautions and procedures; and
9. General principles of supervision and training.

Ability to:

1. Operate and maintain a variety of power-driven grounds equipment and tools safely and skillfully;
2. Operate truck and grounds equipment, observing legal and defensive driving practices;
3. Perform heavy manual labor;
4. Repair or replace PVC, galvanized and copper pipes and connections;
5. Perform electrical work in repair, alterations, construction, and installation of underground low voltage electrical systems;
6. Work from blues prints and make changes as necessary;
7. Lead, instruct, and train the work of others;
8. Prepare and maintain records as required;
9. Understand and carry out oral and written instructions;
10. Establish and maintain effective relationships with those contacted in the course of work; and
11. Maintain work pace appropriate to given workload.

EDUCATION

Individuals possessing the knowledge, skills, and abilities listed above are considered to possess the necessary education.

**EXPERIENCE**

Experience in grounds maintenance work, including the operation of heavy duty, power-driven grounds equipment.

**WORKING CONDITIONS**

**Environment:**

Outdoor work environment; subject to driving a vehicle to conduct work; and fumes from vehicle and equipment operation.

**Physical Abilities:**

Dexterity of hands and fingers to operate power-driven grounds equipment tools; lifting heavy objects weighing up to 50 pounds; carrying, pushing or pulling items weighing up to 100 pounds; sitting for extended periods of time; reaching overhead, above the shoulders and horizontally; and bending at the waist.

**Hazards:**

Driving a vehicle during adverse weather conditions; and fumes, dust, odors, dirt, oil/grease, and gases.