

## **WASTEWATER TREATMENT TESTING ASSISTANT**

**DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS:** This is sub-professional work of a routine nature involving the collection and testing of wastewater samples at an activated sludge wastewater treatment plant. Testing is in accordance with standards set by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation as well as other local, state and federal regulations. The testing performed is basic and routine and requires little independent judgment on the part of the incumbent. Work is performed within well-defined procedures or in accordance with direct supervision of the plant's Chief Operator. Does related work as required.

### **TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:**

Performs physical, chemical and bacteriological testing of wastewater samples including bio-chemical oxygen demand (total, soluble and carbonaceous), chemical oxygen demand, solids (suspended, total and volatile), total alkalinity, hydrogen ion concentration, temperature, conductivity, coliform count, chlorine (total, residual, free);  
Performs daily calibration of laboratory instruments;  
Prepares required reports and maintains records of testing;  
Maintains inventory of laboratory supplies and equipment;  
Cleans, sterilizes and maintains laboratory equipment, glassware and instruments;  
Prepares lab reagents for testing of wastewater samples;  
Maintains the laboratory in an orderly, safe and sanitary manner;  
Collects wastewater samples from various plant and field locations which may require local driving;  
May perform yearly proficiency state testing.

### **FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:**

Working knowledge of biology and chemistry; working knowledge of standard laboratory terminology and equipment; working knowledge of processes for conducting simple laboratory tests and preparation of test solutions relating to wastewater testing at an activated sludge plant; working knowledge of the Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater manual issued by the New York State Department of Health; ability to perform a variety of wastewater tests and provide accurate results; ability to understand and follow oral and written directions.

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:** Graduation from high school or possession of an equivalency diploma either of which included successful completion of courses in Biology and Chemistry; plus

1. Six (6) months of work experience in a laboratory which involved preparation of solutions and/or testing; or
2. Successful completion of a college level Biology or Chemistry course; or
3. Any New York State certification that included a course in testing wastewater.

**NOTE:** An additional six (6) months of the above laboratory experience may be substituted for the high school Biology and Chemistry courses.

**SPECIAL REQUIREMENT:** A valid driver's license appropriate for the size and kind of vehicle being operated.