

Jurisdictional Class: Competitive; Non-Competitive in Villages  
Adopted: September 6, 1985  
Revised: August 7, 2018

**CHIEF WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT OPERATOR**

**DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS:** The work involves responsibility for overseeing the safe and efficient operation and maintenance of the Wastewater Treatment Plant and to assist in the regulatory compliance of a wastewater treatment system classified under the provisions of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation. The work is performed under general direction but wide leeway is allowed for planning work methods and dealing with emergency conditions. Supervision is exercised over the work of operators, trainees, and other subordinate personnel. The incumbent does related work as required.

**TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:** (Illustrative only)

Supervises the operation of the plant to assure the most efficient and economical use of equipment, supplies, and personnel;  
Makes daily inspection of plant machinery;  
Makes or supervises necessary tests for control of plant operation;  
Supervises the treatment and disposal of sludge;  
Supervises the maintenance and repair of machinery;  
Assigns plant personnel to shifts;  
Instructs and supervises operators, trainees, and other subordinate employees;  
Maintains inventory of supplies, chemicals, and equipment;  
Confers with State and Federal officials regarding plant operation, regulatory compliance requirements, maintenance, and performance;  
Requisitions materials;  
Maintains records and prepares periodic reports and administers programs related to the operation of the plant.

**FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES & PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:**

Thorough knowledge of the practices used and equipment required in the operation and maintenance of a Wastewater Treatment Plant;  
Good knowledge of the operations of a modern wastewater treatment plant;  
Good knowledge of the principles and applications of physics, chemistry, and bacteriology applied to wastewater treatment and disposal;  
Ability to supervise the operation and repair of pumps, valves, and related mechanical and electrical equipment;  
Ability to make routine laboratory and field tests for control of plant operation;  
Ability to plan and supervise the work of subordinates;  
Mechanical aptitude.

## Chief Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:** One (1) year of operating experience at a wastewater treatment plant with a level of complexity equivalent to this plant classification and possession of a current appropriate grade-level Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator Certificate issued by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation for the designated plant classification as governed by the provisions of the New York State Sanitary Code.

Wastewater Treatment Plant whose designated plant point score is 76 points or greater requires Grade A or Grade 4-A Operator Certificate; Wastewater Treatment Plant whose designated plant point score is 56-75 points requires Grade 3 or Grade 3-A Operator Certificate; Wastewater Treatment Plant whose designated plant point score is 31-55 points requires Grade 2 or Grade 2-A Operator Certificate; Wastewater Treatment Plant whose designated plant point score is 30 points or less requires Grade 1 or Grade 1-A Operator Certificate.

“A” designation = Activated Sludge.