



## TECHNICIAN-EQUIPMENT OPERATOR

### DEFINITION:

Under the supervision of the assigned supervisor, performs tasks in landscaping and groundskeeping of District locations to ensure a pleasant and functional outdoor environment; utilizes a variety of tools and light and heavy equipment to monitor and maintain plant health, water and effect appropriate landscape activities and to attend to and support the upkeep of District sports fields and premises.

### DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS

The classification of Grounds IV-Equipment Operator is distinguished from the lower classification of grounds maintenance positions primarily by the higher degree of journey-level skills. Incumbents serve as a senior technician and oversee special projects. Incumbents train and provide leadership and direction to assigned staff in the grounds trade. This classification serves as a backup Head Foreman and orders materials and supplies. Incumbents have four to five years of journey-level experience in a specific trade and will have completed an approved apprenticeship program in a specific trade.

**ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES** include the following. Other duties may be assigned.

- Utilizes tools and light and heavy equipment to perform tasks, including grading, roto-tilling, sod laying, mowing, trimming, planting, watering, fertilizing, digging, raking, sprinkler installation and thatching.
- Waters lawns, trees, or plants, using portable sprinkler systems, hoses, or watering cans; mows large turf areas and District sport and activity fields.
- Operates heavy equipment and vehicles to include trucks, tractors, field mowers, trenchers, air compressors, roto-tillers and various other groundskeeping and landscaping tools.
- Assists in the planning, estimating and scheduling of work to be completed; provides direction and guidance to Groundskeeping crews and staff on responsibilities and task assignments.
- Employs various hand tools, such as shears, chain saws, shovels, rakes, pruning saws, saws, hedge or brush trimmers or axes to prune or trim trees, shrubs, or hedges.
- Operates vehicles or powered equipment, such as industrial mowers, heavy tractors, twin-axle vehicles, chain-saws, electric clippers, sod cutters, or large irrigation control systems.
- Maintains mowers and other equipment, including lubricating, blade sharpening and blade changes; adjusts lawn sprinkler heads, grades and repairs areas with heavy tractor; relocates athletic equipment as necessary to perform related tasks.
- Estimates materials, tools and equipment needed for projects.
- Monitors and repairs automated irrigation control system.
- Assesses safety concerns and field conditions prior to task initiation; inspects and ensures quality control of completed work.
- Maintains tools, equipment and vehicles used in grounds keeping activities and tasks.
- Coordinates work schedules for periodic maintenance and management of District grounds.
- Maintains routine records related to assigned activities.
- Moves and arranges furniture and equipment as requested.

### QUALIFICATIONS GUIDE

#### Knowledge of:

- Methods, equipment and materials used in landscaping, gardening and groundskeeping work.
- Basic grounds maintenance procedures including mowing, edging, raking and weeding and cultivating, fertilizing, watering and spraying of flowers, trees and shrubs.
- Pesticides, sprays, and applications used for herbicides, fungicides, and insecticides on plants or the soil to prevent or control weeds, insects, and diseases.
- Inspecting lawns for problems and applying fertilizers, pesticides, and other chemicals to stimulate growth and prevent or control weeds, diseases, or insect infestations.
- Operation and maintenance of hand and power tools and equipment used in groundskeeping.
- Basic record-keeping techniques.

- Health and safety regulations.

**Ability to:**

- Perform a variety of grounds maintenance and gardening duties in the beautification of assigned grounds and landscaped areas.
- Mow, edge, water, weed, fertilize, rake and cultivate lawns, flower beds, fields and other landscaped areas.
- Operate hand and power tools and other equipment used in grounds maintenance.
- Understand and follow oral and written instructions.
- Maintain routine records.
- Read blueprints
- Perform strenuous work.
- Work without immediate supervision
- Develop a work schedule
- Prepare accurate reports
- Establish cooperative relations with others.
- Understand and perform oral or written instructions.
- Observe health and safety regulations.
- Work cooperatively with others.

**EDUCATION/EXPERIENCE:**

Any combination equivalent to: High school graduate or equivalent and four years' experience in landscape/water distribution maintenance and installation. Have some working knowledge of irrigation systems backflow devices anti-siphon devices. Possess any combination of training and experience that could likely provide the desired knowledge and abilities.

**LICENSES AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS:**

- Current backflow testing license preferred.
- Class C California Driver's license.

**PHYSICAL DEMANDS:**

The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions. Good physical condition as determined by pre- and post-employment physicals and health reports.

- Dexterity of hands and fingers to operate grounds maintenance equipment.
- Walking or standing for extended periods of time.
- Seeing to perform gardening and grounds work.
- Lifting, carrying, pushing or pulling heavy objects as assigned by position.
- Sitting to operate tractors, mowers and other machines.
- Bending at the waist, kneeling or crouching.
- Reaching overhead, above the shoulders and horizontally.
- Regularly lift and/or move up to 50 pounds; lifting, carrying, pushing or pulling heavy objects up 100 pounds with assistance.

**WORK ENVIRONMENT:**

Outdoor Work Environment. Seasonal wet and/or humid, heat and cold or adverse weather conditions. Exposure to fumes, dust, odors, oil/grease, gases. The work environment characteristics described here are representative of those an employee encounters while performing the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions. The noise level in the work environment is usually moderate. Work hazards include:

- Working around and with machinery having moving parts.
- Exposure to chemicals and fumes