JOB DESCRIPTION

TITLE: EQUIPMENT OPERATOR I

SECTION: IRRIGATION/CANAL-DISTRIBUTION

DEPARTMENT: TRADES & SUPPORT  SRN 24:

DEFINITION: Under general supervision, to perform skilled duties in the operation of a variety of light construction and maintenance equipment, to perform construction and maintenance work; and to do related work as required.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS:
Positions in this classification are distinguished from those in the Equipment Operator II classification by having primary responsibility for operating cranes, backhoes, D-5 or smaller dozers, truck and trailer combinations, excavators, motorgraders and a variety of other complex power equipment. Incumbents may be assigned to operate the more complex heavy equipment on a training basis.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:
1. Operates diesel or gasoline powered earth moving and trenching equipment such as tractors, loaders, backhoes, excavators and trucks; uses and changes equipment attachments to perform excavating, earth moving, loading, leveling, and backfilling assignments. Cleans, maintains, and makes minor repairs to assigned equipment.

2. Excavates for water meter installation, service lines and excavations as assigned.

3. Insures that all underground utilities are located before starting excavation work.

4. May operate spray equipment and drain-line cleaners.

5. Performs heavy and semiskilled maintenance, construction, and labor work when the nature of the job does not require constant equipment operation; maintains safe operating procedures in equipment work area; may operate equipment near gas and electric utilities; may work with and in areas containing chemicals, fumes, dust and smoke; may routinely lift items weighing over 50 pounds.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

Licenses and Certificates: Possession of an Class A California operator's license issued by the State Department of Motor Vehicles. Department of Motor Vehicles driving record may influence employment or classification.

Any Equipment Operator 1 who obtains certification from the National Commission for the Certification of Crane Operators (NCCCO) will be eligible to receive a 5% increase in pay. This certification is recognized by OSHA who independently provides verification that the operators have met OSHA’s training requirements. This is a one time increase. Should additional equipment certification be required, there will be no additional compensation. Employee will lose the additional pay should they not maintain the certification.
MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS (Cont.):

Training and Experience: Any combination of training and experience which would likely provide required knowledge and abilities is qualifying. A typical way to obtain this knowledge and abilities would be to have two years of experience in the operation of light earth moving and construction equipment.

Knowledge of:
- Use and functions of power-driven equipment used in the District's maintenance and construction activities.
- Operating characteristics, maintenance requirements, and basic repair power-driven equipment including dozers, hydrocranes, backhoes, loaders, excavators and trucks.
- Methods, materials, and practices utilized in the District's maintenance and construction activities.
- Uses and purposes of hand tools.
- Safe work practices.

Ability to:
- Operate assigned equipment with skill and safety.
- Perform a variety of excavating, earth moving, backfilling, trenching discing, clearing, and construction assignments.
- Perform semiskilled maintenance and construction work.
- Perform heavy manual labor that includes digging with shovels and lift over 50 pounds.
- Perform routine maintenance and basic repairs on assigned equipment.
- Follow written and oral instructions and directions.
- Work cooperatively with others.
- Follow District safety procedures and policies.

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS:

1. Driving: Heavy.

2. Lift; carry; push and pull up to 50 pounds.

3. Works in extreme weather conditions including wind; heat; rain; dust and cold temperatures.

4. Works and walks on uneven ground and below grade in holes; trenches and vaults.

5. Works with chemicals; oils; fuels.