

HEATING PLANT OPERATOR I (LP)

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: Under general supervision, incumbents operate and participate in a wide variety of inspection, maintenance, and repair on low pressure steam (below 15 lbs. psi) and/or hot water heaters and associated ventilation and air-conditioning systems. This level is considered to be the full performance level operator in a low pressure heating plant. Incumbents may serve as a lead worker, as part of a team or function independently. Assignments may be generated by oral or written instructions. When assigned to a "watch" or shift, incumbents insure proper functioning of all equipment by constant surveillance and perform routine maintenance and emergency repairs. Incumbents use independent judgement in emergencies, following established procedures. This level is not responsible for the training of Heating Plant Operator Trainees. Does related work as required.

EXAMPLES OF WORK: (Illustrative Only)

Starts, operates and participates in the maintenance and repair of low pressure steam (15 lbs. psi) and/or hot water heaters, ventilators and air conditioning equipment;

Monitors all equipment on assigned watch.;

Checks instrument readings and keeps boiler room log of operating errors, fuel combustion, water temperature, etc.;

Starts, operates and maintains air conditioning equipment;

Performs and assists with changeovers to standby units;

Performs minor electrical trouble shooting associated with HVAC equipment;

Participates in the diagnosis of mechanical problems;

Participates in the lubrication of all moving parts of boiler room machinery;

Monitors the receipt of oil deliveries according to established procedures;

Resets various building alarms;

Performs building maintenance and site utility maintenance;

Participates in the cleaning repair and maintenance of air filter ducts, air fans, boiler machines, pipes, dampers, cooling towers, etc. as needed;

Depending on work location, may operate mechanical devices, participate in snow removal, etc., as assigned;

Performs routine and emergency repairs and maintenance both scheduled and in response to emergency situations, as required.

REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND ATTRIBUTES: Thorough knowledge of modern methods used in the maintenance and operation of a low pressure (up to and including 15 lbs. psi) heating plant, including boilers and a variety of auxiliary equipment, and the methods used in maintaining such equipment; thorough knowledge of central air-conditioning systems; thorough knowledge of the safety precautions of the trade; good knowledge of applicable state, county and local operating codes; good knowledge of the fundamentals of combustion, stages of combustion, the combustion process and reactions; familiarity with the basic fundamentals of mathematics; ability to operate and maintain mechanical equipment; ability to function quickly and efficiently in the event of mechanical failure; ability to understand and carry out oral and written instructions; ability to work well with others; reliability; initiative; physical strength and ability; physical condition commensurate with the demands of the position.

MINIMUM ACCEPTABLE TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE: A high school or equivalency diploma and either (a) three years of experience in the operation and maintenance of mechanical equipment including one year in the operation and maintenance of heating and air conditioning plants; or (b) completion of a vocational education program or post-secondary course of study in the mechanical trades, including a course in boiler room, heating plant or air-conditioning/refrigeration system operation, maintenance and repair and one year of experience as stated in (a); or (c) a satisfactory equivalent combination of the foregoing training and experience.

*SPECIAL NOTE: Education beyond the secondary must be from an institution accredited or recognized by the Board of Regents of the New York State Education Department as a post-secondary, degree-granting institution.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT: Depending on work assignment, must meet standards of OSHA regulation 1910.134 Respiratory Protection, and will be required to meet Federal, State and local standards with respect to health and safety.