

LABORATORY TECHNICIAN

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: This is analytical laboratory work of routine difficulty performed in the Water and Wastewater Departments. The work involves the responsibility for performing routine laboratory tests and, at times, performing some functions of a Senior Laboratory Technician. Direct supervision is received from senior laboratory personnel with general instructions on recurring assignments. The Laboratory Technician performs related work as required.

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:

Conducts routine standard qualitative and quantitative analyses;
Performs chemical and bacteriological analyses of air, water, wastewater, sludge and sediment samples, including gas chromatography and T.O.C. (total organic carbon) analysis;
Makes up chemical standards, solutions and culture media used in testing processes;
Organizes data and records results of tests on reports;
Collects samples when required.

FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGES, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:

Thorough knowledge of laboratory practices and techniques, equipment and terminology; thorough knowledge of testing procedures encountered in the Water and Wastewater laboratories; working knowledge in the use of personal computer; skill in the techniques of operating and caring for standard laboratory equipment and apparatus, and in performing laboratory routines; ability to follow technical instructions; ability to adhere to safety precautions in the handling of laboratory chemicals; thoroughness; dependability; initiative; physical condition commensurate with the demands of the position.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: EITHER:

(A) Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State registered college or university with a Bachelor's degree in Chemistry, Biology, Environmental Science/Engineering or related natural science;

OR

(B) Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State registered college or university with an Associate's degree in laboratory technology or related natural science/technology and two (2) years of analytical laboratory experience;

OR

(C) Graduation from high school or possession of a high school equivalency diploma and four (4) years of experience in a laboratory performing technical laboratory procedures.

NOTE: Additional appropriate education beyond high school graduation can be substituted for experience on a year-for-year basis: high school graduation is required; additional experience beyond four (4) years cannot be substituted for high school graduation.