

Printer Specialist

Job Code
3793N1

Job Title
Printer Specialist

Pay Grade
20

CONCEPT:

This is highly skilled printing work in the operation of equipment used in pre-press preparation or printing press operation or bookbinding in a large printing plant. Work is performed under general supervision of print shop supervisor.

TASKS:

Pre-press Preparation:

- Writes and corrects original formats for inputting typesetting commands to computerized photocomposition system.
- Operates tape-generating video display terminal, paper tape punches with line printers, and computerized composition devices, for the purpose of inputting and editing material into the composer.
- Operates computerized photocomposition equipment, producing type on photo sensitive paper or film; operates automatic film processor.
- Operates process camera, makes adjustments to expose light-sensitive film.
- Mixes and loads chemicals into processor and develops line and halftone negatives.
- Operates/maintains exposure frame, plate coater and automated plate processor.
- Masks and strips negatives.
- Operates platemaker and develops plates.
- Determines density of pictures using densitometer to set the exposure control to shoot screened negatives on the camera. Determines special treatment such as outlining or postering copy and special treatment for copy which is washed out, dark or blacking in detail.
- Keeps inventory and performs other darkroom duties such as duplicate negatives, contact prints, reverse negatives and prints, choke and swell negatives or prints.
- Examines materials and determines process necessary for its reproduction.
- Makes photo transfer prints from artwork and type that needs to be reduced or enlarged.
- Produces metal printing plates from negative flats to reproduce graphic materials.
- Prepares paste-up mechanical for camera and offset printing using phototype and various graphic art components.
- Makes blueline and color key proofs. Does color-separation work involving changing color transparencies and prints into two-color or four-color process screened negatives.

Pressroom:

- Sets up and operates a variety of offset and letter presses to produce larger more complicated printed materials requiring close registry or multi-color.
- Sets up and operates multiple operator presses.
- Sets up and operates multiple head presses producing up to four color work.
- Loads stock, counts plates, cleans blankets, washes rollers, jogs signatures and paper, mixes ink and water.
- Cleans equipment after jobs are completed; performs daily maintenance; repairs presses and related equipment.
- Operates total press (ink system) copy center including collator and master maker. Makes own plates onto printing press and prints on either side of paper using up to four colors.

Bindery:

- Sets up, operates and maintains the full array of bindery equipment in a large printing plant.

In all areas:

- May function as a lead worker in any work area, providing training and guidance to lower level and less experienced printers.

Minimum Requirements: Three years of experience in the printing trade. Education may be substituted for experience as determined relevant by the agency.