

# Power Plant Operator

**Job Code**  
3296N2

**Job Title**  
Power Plant Operator Senior

**Pay Grade**  
19

## CONCEPT:

Operating and maintaining low or stationary high-pressure boilers, water softeners, chillers, compressors, generators, and other equipment in a central heating and power plant. Work includes maintaining constant surveillance over equipment operation by reading gauges, meters and charts, and by testing water and recording this information to ensure efficiency and safety.

## TASKS:

- Fires boilers with gas or oil; reads gauges and charts and records information; operates manual controls; makes adjustments as needed to ensure a continuous supply of hot water and steam.
- Maintains water level, temperature, and steam pressure; checks safety alarms, automatic controls, pumps, valves, and lines for proper operation and leaks.
- Opens valves to blow rust and sludge from boilers; makes change over to auxiliary boilers or standby fuel and relights boilers when necessary.
- Operates and maintains chillers, water softeners and related equipment.
- Tests alkalinity and hardness of water; mixes and adds compounds; lubricates equipment; recharges softeners; renews packing in pumps, and assists skilled workers in the more difficult tasks.
- Assists in performing minor repair or maintenance work on other mechanical systems, or on various types of equipment or property; paints, cleans, and maintains power plant.
- Participates in and may supervise the installation, alteration, operations, and maintenance of power plant equipment, refrigeration, and other mechanical systems.
- Makes rounds of power plant at regular intervals, reading gauges, testing water, adjusting controls, and observing operation of all equipment; keeps powerhouse log, recording gauge readings, fuel consumed, and power generated.
- Performs preventive maintenance and repair on power plant mechanical equipment, including valves, pumps, flowmeters, steam lines, and turbines; performs general plumbing and electrical work related to equipment.
- May occasionally perform maintenance and repair work on mechanical systems outside of the power plant.

## LEVELS OF WORK

- Class Group consists of one class.

**Power Plant Senior** - Skilled worker independently responsible for operating and performing major or difficult maintenance and repair work on all power plant equipment or overseeing and training one or more lower-level operators on a shift. Instructs subordinates in the proper care and use of equipment and in proper procedures and methods of mechanical equipment maintenance and repair.

**Minimum Requirements:** Six months of experience in power plant operation. Education may be substituted for experience as determined relevant by the agency.

REF: 12/13  
REV: 7/14