BOARD OF REGENTS  
STATE OF IOWA  
REGENT MERIT SYSTEM

Class Title: Utility Plant Operator I Trainee  
Class Code: 5472  
Trainee Grade: 209

Standard Training Program: 2 years

GENERAL CLASS DESCRIPTION:
Under direct supervision, receives work experience and related training instruction to 
develop the knowledge and skill necessary to perform at the journey level upon 
completion of the training program to operate power plant auxiliary systems and assist in 
all aspects of plant operations. Participates in training that is required to progress to 
eligibility for the Utility Plant Operator I classification.

CHARACTERISTIC DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Learns how to operate ash removal, ash handling, and ash silo unloading systems 
on solid fuel boilers; operate manual and automated solid fuel boiler soot blowing 
systems; and operate coal and limestone handling equipment and systems, including 
various types of conveyors, elevators, dense phase systems.

2. Learns how to clean and paint assigned work areas; assist maintenance staff; and 
make rounds of plant equipment.

3. Learns how to assist with operation of the typical equipment or systems including 
water plant equipment including iron removal system, demineralizers, zeolite 
softeners, wells and condensate polishers; turbine generator auxiliary equipment 
including pumps, oil and air coolers, condensers, etc.; turbine driven chiller auxiliary 
equipment including pumps, oil coolers, condensers, etc.; boiler fans, grates, feeders 
etc.; plant cooling or service water systems and pumps; cooling tower fans, pumps, 
level controls etc.; condensate return tanks, pumps and other equipment; 
desuperheating water tanks, pumps and other equipment; compressed air system 
including air compressors and dryers; and feedwater system pumps and deaerators.

The tasks listed under the heading of Characteristic Duties and Responsibilities are examples of the variety and general nature of 
duties performed by employees in positions allocated in the class. The list is descriptive only and should be used for no other purpose. 
It is not intended that any position include every duty listed nor is it intended that related duties cannot be required.
KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES:

1. Ability to follow oral and written instructions.
2. Ability to communicate effectively with staff, students, and the public.
3. Ability to learn all other knowledge, skills, and abilities listed in the Utility Plant Operator I class description.

MINIMUM ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

Ability to read, write and follow instructions.

Upon completion of the training program, must be able to meet the minimum eligibility requirements for the Utility Plant Operator I classification as follows:

1. Must have a high school diploma or GED, and
2. Two years experience in an industrial plant, process plant or power plant, operating boilers, pumps, fans, conveyors or other similar equipment.

REVISION EFFECTIVE: June 12, 2018

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