

## **IRRIGATION SPECIALIST**

### **DEFINITION**

Under general supervision, performs skilled work in installing, maintaining, and repairing sprinklers and other irrigation systems to improve, maintain, and renovate College's athletic/sports fields and campus grounds. Maintains, programs, and repairs the central irrigation control system.

### **SUPERVISION RECEIVED AND EXERCISED**

Receives general supervision from the assigned managerial personnel and technical and functional supervision from the Coordinator, Irrigation Services.

### **CLASS CHARACTERISTICS**

This is the journey-level in the irrigation specialist class series and is responsible for technical maintenance and repair of lawn sprinkler and hydraulic systems to support landscaping programs in and around the College grounds to ensure that all are maintained in a safe and effective working condition and provide the highest level of safety and utility for College and public use. Positions at this level receive only occasional instruction or assistance as new or unusual situations arise and are fully aware of the operating procedures and policies of the work unit. This class is distinguished from the Coordinator, Irrigation Services in that the latter is responsible for technical and functional supervision of assigned irrigation staff and is capable of performing the most complex duties assigned to the function.

### **EXAMPLES OF ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS (Illustrative Only)**

1. Performs work in the installation, repair, inspection, and maintenance of irrigation systems and related parts (recycled and potable water), components, and equipment; maintains a safe environment for students, staff, and the public.
2. Inspects, services, and repairs irrigation controllers and related electrical components; troubleshoots central irrigation control system, utilization of electronic testing equipment, irrigation controllers, solenoid valves, and wiring; adjusts central irrigation computer and controllers for correct programming; ensures proper amounts of water are being used; sets time clocks according to seasons, soil conditions, and water distribution rates.
3. Maintains, troubleshoots, repairs, renovates, and remodels sprinkler and hydraulic systems, including valves, sprinklers, devices, controllers, pumps, cross connections, weather stations, and related components and equipment; replaces system parts and equipment as necessary; services and replaces controller components.
4. Measures and audits soil moisture and effectiveness of irrigation systems and makes adjustments accordingly.
5. Reviews blueprints to ensure compatibility and standardization of sprinkler parts, valves, water pressure guidelines, and pipes; maintains and replaces valves;

- makes changes on master blueprints of sprinkler systems; plans and sketches layout of new sprinkler systems.
6. Operates a variety of power-driven equipment and tools such as saws, bobcats, backhoes, and trenchers; operates testers, gauges, and small hand and power tools; drives a vehicle to perform work.
  7. Works effectively with contractors on College-approved irrigation projects.
  8. Operates a variety of hand and power tools and equipment related to work assignments as instructed.
  9. Observes safe work methods and makes appropriate use of related safety equipment as required.
  10. Maintains work areas in a clean and orderly condition, including securing equipment at the close of the workday.
  11. Provides needed information and demonstrations concerning how to perform certain work tasks to new employees.
  12. Records and maintains work and material records.
  13. Performs minor concrete work on an as needed basis and in coordination with skilled trades such as controller pedestal concrete pads.
  14. Assists other College employees with various grounds and landscape projects throughout the College facilities.
  15. Participates on committees, task forces, and special assignments, including, but not limited to Screening and Selection Committees and affiliated mandated trainings, as required. Prepares and delivers oral presentations related to assigned areas if needed.
  16. Supports and complies with federal and state laws, Board Policies, and Administrative Procedures.
  17. Provides quality customer service when interacting with the public, vendors, students, and College staff, including individuals from minoritized groups.
  18. Works directly with people from various ages, disabilities, socio-economic levels and ethnic groups.
  19. Maintains regular attendance.
  20. Performs other related duties as assigned.

## **QUALIFICATIONS**

### **Knowledge of:**

1. Principles, practices, methods, equipment, materials, and tools used in the maintenance and repair of College water irrigation systems and recycled water irrigation systems.
2. Principles of water conservation and usage relating to irrigation systems.
3. Installation, maintenance, and repair of central control irrigation systems.
4. Basic horticulture techniques as it relates to irrigation.
5. Basic maintenance and repair of hand tools and equipment used in irrigation maintenance work.
6. Applicable federal, state, and local laws, ordinances, regulations, and guidelines relevant to assigned area of responsibility.
7. Occupational hazards and safety equipment and practices related to the work.

8. Standard office practices and procedures, including the use of standard office equipment, basic record-keeping, and arithmetic.
9. Safe work practices, including safe driving rules and practices.
10. Techniques for providing a high level of customer service by effectively interacting with the public, vendors, students, and College staff, including individuals of various ages, disabilities, socio-economic levels and ethnic groups.

**Skills & Abilities to:**

1. Perform a variety of technical tasks in the installation, maintenance, and repair of water irrigation systems.
2. Inspect irrigation systems and correct or repair as necessary.
3. Maintain efficient and effective irrigation systems using principles of water conservation.
4. Perform basic preventative maintenance of equipment and tools.
5. Skillfully and safely operate a variety of power and hand tools and equipment.
6. Troubleshoot irrigation problems and determine materials, costs, and supplies required; recommend purchases.
7. Interpret, apply, explain, and ensure compliance with applicable federal, state, and local policies, procedures, laws, and regulations.
8. Understand and follow written and verbal directions, instructions, and safety rules and procedures.
9. Maintain accurate logs and records.
10. Operate modern office equipment, including computer equipment and software programs.
11. Read and interpret construction drawings, specifications, plans, manuals, diagrams, blueprints, and technical regulations.
12. Make accurate arithmetic calculations.
13. Operate a truck and observe legal and defensive driving practices.
14. Organize own work, set priorities, and meet critical time deadlines.
15. Communicate effectively through various methods.
16. Learn and apply emerging technologies and, as necessary, to perform in an efficient, organized, and timely manner.
17. Understand scope of authority in making independent decisions.
18. Review situations accurately and determine appropriate course of action using judgment according to established policies and procedures.
19. Establish, maintain, and foster positive and effective working relationships with those contacted in the course of work.

**Education and Experience:**

1. Equivalent to the completion of the twelfth (12<sup>th</sup>) grade; and
2. Two (2) full-time equivalent years of experience in the installation, maintenance, and repair of automatic irrigation systems in a commercial setting.

**Desirable Qualifications:**

Possession of the following Irrigation Association certification:

Certified Irrigation Technician (CIT).

**Licenses and Certifications:**

The incumbent is required to drive to a variety of locations. This will require the incumbent to possess and maintain a valid California driver's license and proof of automobile insurance and maintain insurability under the College's vehicle insurance policy.

**PHYSICAL DEMANDS**

Must possess mobility to work in the field; strength, stamina and mobility to perform medium physical work, operate varied hand and power tools and equipment; vision to read printed materials and a computer screen; color vision to identify various irrigation equipment and appurtenances and hearing and speech to communicate in person and over the telephone or radio. The job involves fieldwork requiring frequent walking in operational areas and traversing uneven terrain to identify problems or hazards. Finger dexterity is needed to access, enter and retrieve data using a computer keyboard or calculator, and to operate above-mentioned tools and equipment. Positions in this classification bend, stoop, kneel, reach, and climb to perform work and inspect work sites. Incumbents must possess the ability to lift, carry, push, and pull materials and objects weighing up to 50 pounds or heavier weights with the use of proper equipment.

**ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS**

Incumbents work primarily in the field and are occasionally exposed to loud noise levels, cold and hot temperatures, inclement weather conditions, road hazards, vibration, confining workspace, chemicals, mechanical and/or electrical hazards, and hazardous physical substances and fumes. Incumbents may interact with staff and/or public and private representatives, and contractors in interpreting and enforcing departmental policies and procedures.

Amended 3/2026