CLASS TITLE: SUPERVISING BRIDGE OPERATOR

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CLASS

Under general supervision, working a rotating shift supervises staff of stationary and roving Bridge Operators engaged in operating control equipment for the lifting and lowering of electrically operated bascule drawbridges located on the Calumet River and the Chicago River, and performs related duties as required

ESSENTIAL DUTIES

- Reviews daily manpower power reports and makes work assignments to stationary and roving Bridge Operators to ensure proper manning of bridge houses (e.g. 5 bridges on Calumet River and 32 bridges on Chicago River) during assigned shift
- Travels to bridge locations to visually inspect safety conditions of bridges and housing, checking to ensure gates, lights, center bridge locks, and other moveable bridge part are operating properly and that bridge houses are secured; forwards requests for needed repairs and maintenance to appropriate personnel
- Receives daily reports of scheduled boat runs and their routes on the Chicago River and assigns roving Bridge Operators to bridge locations for a coordinated lifting and closing of bridges; maintains radio contact with boat personnel during boat run
- Checks to ensure the proper operation of warning signals and navigational, pier and channel lights on bridges and bridge structures along the Calumet River/Chicago River
- Oversees the training Bridge Operators, ensuring staff receive on the job training and guidance in operating the bridge console and related levers for the lifting and lowering of bascule drawbridges and gates
- Prepares incident report for all accidents occurring on or to drawbridges; prepares accident incident reports for employee work related accidents
- Inspects and ensures the upkeep of bridge houses and delivers needed supplies
- Reviews activity reports prepared by Bridge Operators on the number of drawbridge lifts and number of boats coming through during assigned shift
- Prepares performance evaluations for staff; initiates progressive discipline and enforces disciplinary actions; prepared and approves time edit sheets; approves time off
- Performs duties of a Bridge Operator as required

NOTE: The list of essential duties is not intended to be inclusive; there may be other duties that are essential to particular positions within the class.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Education, Training, and Experience

- Three years of work experience operating electrically operated bascule drawbridge machinery and equipment.

Licensure, Certification, or Other Qualifications

- A valid State of Illinois driver's license is required
Must have the permanent use of an automobile that is properly insured, including a clause specifically insuring the City of Chicago from accident liability

WORKING CONDITIONS
- General office environment
- Exposure to outdoor weather conditions
- Must be able to work rotating shifts

EQUIPMENT
- Personal protective equipment (e.g., hard hat, shoes, glasses, gloves, vest, pads)
- Communications equipment (e.g., two-way radio, hand-held radios, Nextel cell phones)
- Operating console and related equipment to lift and lower bascule drawbridges

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS
- Ability to walk or stand for extended or continuous periods of time
- Ability to move one’s hands and arms to grasp or manipulate objects
- Ability to climb staircases and ladders to access bridge houses

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES, AND OTHER WORK REQUIREMENTS

Knowledge
Moderate knowledge of:
- *geographical locations within the City
- *navigational rules and regulations
- *equipment specific to the operation of drawbridges
- *safety procedures and standards specific to the operation of drawbridges
- *applicable emergency operations relating to drawbridge operations

Some knowledge of:
- supervisory methods, practices and procedures

Knowledge of applicable City and department policies, procedures, rules, and regulations

Knowledge as required for successful performance in the Bridge Operator class

Skills
- ACTIVE LISTENING - Give full attention to what other people are saying, taking time to understand the points being made, ask questions as appropriate, and not interrupt at inappropriate times
- MANAGEMENT OF PERSONNEL RESOURCES - Motivate, develop, and direct people as they work and identify the best people for the job
- INSTRUCTING - Teach others how to do something
- CRITICAL THINKING – Use logic and reasoning to identify the strengths and weaknesses of alternative solutions, conclusions, or approaches to problems

Other skills as required for successful performance in the Bridge Operator class
Abilities

• COMPREHEND ORAL INFORMATION - Listen to and understand information and ideas presented through spoken words and sentences
• SPEAK - Communicate information and ideas in speaking so others will understand
• COMPREHEND WRITTEN INFORMATION - Read and understand information and ideas presented in writing
• WRITE - Communicate information and ideas in writing so others will understand
• RECOGNIZE PROBLEMS - Tell when something is wrong or is likely to go wrong

Other abilities as required for successful performance in the Bridge Operator class.

Other Work Requirements

• INITIATIVE – Demonstrate willingness to take on job challenges
• LEADERSHIP - Demonstrate willingness to lead, take charge, and offer opinions and direction
• DEPENDABILITY - Demonstrate reliability, responsibility, and dependability and fulfill obligations
• ATTENTION TO DETAIL - Pay careful attention to detail and thoroughness in completing work tasks

Other characteristics as required for successful performance in the Bridge Operator class.

All employees of the City of Chicago must demonstrate commitment to and compliance with applicable state and federal laws, and City ordinances and rules; the City’s Ethics standards; and other City policies and procedures.

The City of Chicago will consider equivalent foreign degrees, accreditations, and credentials in evaluating qualifications.

* May be required at entry.