



**Code: 9411** Family:  
Construction, Maintenance, and  
Skilled Labor Service: Labor  
Group: Non-Competitive Series:  
Unskilled Labor

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## **CLASS TITLE: CONSTRUCTION LABORER**

### **CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CLASS**

Under immediate supervision, performs physically demanding labor and assists skilled trades workers at construction, maintenance, and repair project sites of public facilities or in the public way including streets and roadways, water distribution structures, sewer/drainage structures, bridges, and viaducts, and performs related duties as required

### **ESSENTIAL DUTIES**

- Prepares work sites, digging and backfilling trenches and tunnel and shaft excavations
- Removes dirt and clears obstructions from around work areas (e.g., catch basins, valve basins, water and electrical vaults, manholes)
- Sets braces and shoring equipment and drives sheeting to support the sides of excavations and prevent cave-ins
- Dismantles concrete and masonry retaining and bearing walls
- Breaks out old pavement, concrete sidewalks, curbs, and gutters
- Excavates and grades ground leveling base and concrete
- Assists skilled trades workers in the construction of scaffolding from ground level to approximately 200 feet above ground
- Operates and maintains pneumatic tools (e.g., jack hammers, concrete/pavement breakers, sandblasters, clay spades)
- Uses hand tools (e.g., shovels, picks, sledgehammers)
- Mixes and pours concrete in specified amounts as directed
- Loads and unloads materials and equipment from trucks and ensures proper tools and equipment are on work site and in working order
- Helps lift and place materials (e.g., pipes, valves, hydrants, castings) into trenches using pipe sticks, ropes, and dollies
- Assists skilled trades workers by readying and supplying needed tools, equipment, and materials
- Sets up barricades, safety cones, and steel street plates around work sites
- Removes rock in underground tunnels
- Marks work sites and identifies area of underground utilities with paint
- Directs vehicular/pedestrian traffic around work sites
- Notifies customers of interruptions in water service

*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**

- Completion of a Department of Labor (DOL) Laborer Apprenticeship Program OR completion of Department of Water Management Laborer Apprenticeship Program OR at least two (2) years

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of work experience as a Construction Laborer or Laborer with the City of Chicago OR at least four (4) years of work experience as a Construction Laborer.

### **Licensure, Certification, or Other Qualifications**

- Some positions may require a valid State of Illinois Driver's License depending on department assignment

### **WORKING CONDITIONS**

- Exposure to outdoor weather conditions
- Exposure to loud noise, fumes or dust, oily or wet environment
- Exposure to hazardous conditions (e.g., construction sites, heavy machinery)
- Work performed above or below ground level
- Work performed using scaffolds and ladders

### **EQUIPMENT**

- Hand tools and manual equipment (e.g., hammer, shovels, power hoses)
- Standard tools and equipment used in heavy construction (e.g., jack hammers, hammer drills and other power tools)
- Personal protective equipment (e.g., hard hat, shoes, glasses, gloves, vest, pads)
- Safety devices or equipment (e.g., cones, barricades, metal plates, scaffolding, ropes)

### **PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS**

- Heavy lifting (up to 100 pounds) required
- Ability to walk and stand for extended periods of time
- Ability to quickly bend, stretch, twist, or reach out with one's body, arms, and/or legs
- Ability to move one's hands and arms to grasp or manipulate objects
- Ability to access difficult to enter spaces (e.g., trenches, tunnels, cramped quarters)
- Ability to operate applicable hand tools, power tools, and equipment

### **KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES, AND OTHER WORK REQUIREMENTS**

#### **Knowledge**

Some knowledge of:

- \*use of power and hand tools, materials and equipment used on construction work sites
- \* construction equipment and materials
- \* excavation and backfilling methods, practices, and procedures
- \* applicable safety practices and procedures specific to labor work, including OSHA standards
- \* use of safety equipment and protective gear

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

regulations **Skills**

- ACTIVE LEARNING - Understand the implications of new information for both current and future problem-solving and decision-making

- ACTIVE LISTENING - Give full attention to what other people are saying, take time to understand the points being made, ask questions as appropriate, and not interrupt at inappropriate times
- EQUIPMENT SELECTION - Determine the kind of tools and equipment needed to do a job **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

**Other Work Requirements**

- INITIATIVE - Demonstrate willingness to take on job challenges
- STAMINA - Demonstrate energy and stamina to accomplish work tasks
- DEPENDABILITY - Demonstrate reliability, responsibility, and dependability and fulfill obligations
- ATTENTION TO DETAIL - Pay careful attention to detail and thoroughness in completing work tasks

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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.

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City of Chicago  
Department of Human  
May, 2014; March, 2024