

**New York State Department of Civil Service**  
Division of Classification & Compensation

***Occ. Code 7202150***

**Maintenance Assistant (Painter), Grade 9**

Brief Description of Class

Maintenance Assistants (Painter) perform semiskilled work in preparing surfaces and applying coats of paint, varnish, and other finishes and stains to decorate and protect interior or exterior surfaces and fixtures of buildings, structures, furniture, and equipment.

Distinguishing Characteristics

Maintenance Assistant (Painter): non-competitive; as a semiskilled employee, performs interior and exterior painting, generally not requiring fine finish or the mixing of paints and matching of colors to decorate interiors of structures.

Generally, Maintenance Assistants (Painter) work under the supervision of a skilled trades or supervisory maintenance position; in turn, they may supervise Facility Operations Assistants 1 and other relatively unskilled workers in performing manual tasks involving elementary skills.

Related Classes

There are a number of other specialized maintenance assistant classes having parenthetical designations describing the predominant trade area in which the incumbent is assigned including carpenter, plumber and steamfitter, electrician, and mason and plasterer. Although incumbents of such classes may perform tasks normally associated with more than one trade, most of their time is spent performing tasks typical of the trade indicated by the parenthetical designation.

Incumbents of Maintenance Assistant positions without a parenthetical designating a trade specialty are usually found in relatively small maintenance staffs where such specialization is not desirable, or in maintenance pools where specialization is not efficient. However, incumbents may be assigned to tasks such as those described for any of the specialized positions of Maintenance Assistant.

Maintenance Assistant is distinguished from Facility Operations Assistant 1 by the latter's performance of relatively unskilled tasks in direct support of semiskilled and/or skilled trades positions. Such tasks involve a limited use of the tools and

equipment of the trade under very specific instruction and supervision of either a Maintenance Assistant or a journey-level tradesperson.

Critical distinctions between the Maintenance Assistant (Painter) and Trades Specialist (Painter) are the latter's responsibility for supervising a crew of Facility Operations Assistants 1 and occasionally other Trades Specialists (Painter) on a project basis performing interior and exterior painting at a State facility, and for estimating the quantity and quality of paint and other materials required to complete a job. Positions of Trades Specialist (Painter) may work independently on painting projects requiring special surface preparation, remixing of paints to match specified colors, and painting requiring fine finish and decorative treatment.

### Illustrative Tasks

Prepares and applies protective and decorative coats of paint to interior and exterior surfaces of buildings, furniture, equipment, guiderails, fences and like surfaces.

- Arranges, assembles, and erects scaffolds and ladders at work site.
- Places drop cloths over shrubbery, furniture or floors to avoid paint splattering.
- Moves furniture and moveable equipment from area to be painted.
- Prepares surfaces for painting by such methods as washing surfaces with soap and water, the use of paint remover, blowtorch, wire brush, or chipping hammer to remove all paint, and by sanding surfaces to smooth them.
- Removes electrical wall plates prior to painting and replaces when job completed.
- Fills cracks, crevices and holes with putty, plaster, or other materials.
- Mixes paints following standard proportions to achieve desired color.
- Paints surfaces usually not requiring fine finish, using brush, spray gun, paint roller, or mittens following oral or written instructions.
- May install or replace window glass.
- Cleans brushes and equipment with soap and water, turpentine, or other solvents.
- Cleans work area of spotted paint and dirt.

May assist in covering interior walls with wall coverings.

- Prepares and cleans surfaces to be covered.
- Cuts wall covering to proper lengths.
- Mixes paste, brushes on back of wall covering, and places and smooths strips on wall.

### Independence of Operation

Maintenance Assistants (Painter) are usually supervised by a higher-level trades position, such as Trades Specialist (Painter) who determine work priorities, define the nature and extent of work to be performed, provide instructions and direction, provide resources for work projects, layout and plan projects, assist in performing the more difficult tasks, train staff in skilled work, activities, evaluate performance, and inspect work in progress and upon completion. Maintenance Assistants (Painter) may perform the activities of this class with considerable independence when supervision is not available and are expected to perform routine activities with considerable independence.

### Communication

The nature of a Maintenance Assistant's (Painter) activities generally restricts relationships to oral communications with employees working within the same organizational unit and to individuals for whom the State has custody or responsibility assigned to projects or work units. Such relationships are characterized by frequent oral and written communication in assigning work, providing instructions, and exchanging information. Written and oral communications with the general public are not typical of this class.

### Supervision Exercised

A Maintenance Assistant (Painter) may supervise work crews of relatively unskilled workers and/or individuals for whom the State has custody or responsibility by making assignments, giving instructions, and aiding in performing tasks.

### Minimum Qualifications

Non-competitive: Two years of full-time experience in painting work under the supervision of a skilled tradesperson; OR completion of an appropriate two-year technical school course in painting at a school, institute, or branch of the Armed

Services; or an equivalent combination of experience and training gained by completion of appropriate technical courses at a school, institute, or branch of the Armed Services.

When required to operate motor vehicles, candidates must possess a valid New York State driver's license appropriate for the type of vehicle to be operated.

Note: Classification Standards illustrate the nature, extent and scope of duties and responsibilities of the classes they describe. Standards cannot and do not include all of the work that might be appropriately performed by a class. The minimum qualifications above are those which were required for appointment at the time the Classification Standard was written. Please contact the Division of Staffing Services for current information on minimum qualification requirements for appointment or examination.

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