

TENTATIVE

Occ. Code 7120150

TRADES SPECIALIST (MASON & PLASTERER), GRADE 12

New York State Department of Civil Service

Classification Standard

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF CLASS

Trades Specialists (Mason & Plasterer) perform journey level masonry and plastering work and frequently supervise others in the construction and repair of buildings and structures involving the use of a variety of masonry materials including brick, stone, plaster, and concrete.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS

A Trades Specialist (Mason & Plasterer) is responsible for all masonry and plastering work including the planning and laying out of work. All positions are in the non-competitive jurisdictional class.

A Trades Specialist (Mason & Plasterer) frequently supervises others in this work including semiskilled and unskilled workers. In an agency such as the Department of Corrections and Community Supervision, where inmates perform some masonry tasks, a Trades Specialist (Mason & Plasterer) may work with, lead, and provide practical instruction to a small group of such individuals.

RELATED CLASSES

A Trades Supervisor (Mason & Plasterer) is a working supervisor of skilled journey-level masons and plasterers and semiskilled and unskilled positions in the masonry and plastering trades, and occasionally other trades such as carpentry.

A Trades Generalist may also perform journey level masonry and plastering activities. However, such positions are classified only where the incumbents perform skilled and semiskilled level work in a combination of trades.

In many State facilities, a Vocational Instructor specialized in masonry formally instructs inmates in the practice of the trade.

Maintenance Assistant (Mason & Plasterer) as a semiskilled employee, performs many of the manual tasks of the masonry trade but is generally not required to plan and lay out work. Incumbents may perform journey level activities and tasks under supervision or after receiving detailed instructions.

Facility Operations Assistants 1 assigned to a masonry crew assist in construction and repair work performing the heavier, less difficult, and repetitive activities involving elementary skills while learning the trade.

Employees engaged in other building and maintenance trades are classified under a variety of commonly used titles descriptive of their work such as Trades Specialist (Carpenter) and Trades Specialist (Electrician).

ILLUSTRATIVE DUTIES

Lays building materials such as stone, brick, concrete cinder block and the like to construct or repair walls, partitions, utility manholes, firebrick linings in furnaces, and chimneys.

- Lays out work following blueprints and specifications by measuring distance from reference points and marking guidelines on working surface.
- Mixes or directs the mixing of mortar.
- Spreads mortar on working surface and to block or stone, and positions and aligns the block using a plumb bob, gageline, and level.
- Removes excess mortar from face of block and finishes mortar between brick with pointing tool or trowel.

Smooths and finishes surfaces of poured concrete floors, walls, and sidewalks to specified texture.

- May mix or direct the mixing of concrete.
- Spreads concrete to specified depth and workable consistency.
- Levels and smooths surface of freshly poured concrete using straightedge and float.
- Removes rough or defective spots and patches holes with fresh concrete.

Applies ceramic tiles to walls, floors, and ceilings.

- Prepares surface by removing damaged tiles or applies plaster or concrete base.
- Spreads adhesive base on surface.
- Cuts, shapes, and applies tiles to surface according to specifications.

Applies coats of plaster to walls and ceilings.

- Mixes or directs the mixing of plaster and the erection of scaffolds if needed.

- Removes broken or loose plaster and otherwise prepares surface.
- Applies scratch coat of plaster.
- Applies finish coats of plaster to desired thickness and texture.

May draw rough sketches or prepare plans to scale from oral or written instructions to accomplish the project.

From blueprints, specifications or oral or written instructions, may estimate labor, materials, tools and equipment necessary for the project.

Assembles materials, tools, and equipment required to complete the project according to plans.

As assigned, supervises and instructs others in performing masonry and plastering work.

- Assigns work to masonry crew.
- As required gives verbal instructions and/or demonstrates proper masonry or plaster techniques and the use of masonry and plastering tools and equipment.

- Observes and inspects the work while in progress and when completed to ensure that the job is done properly.

INDEPENDENCE OF OPERATION

Trades Specialist (Mason & Plasterer) are usually supervised by higher level trades positions such as Supervising Trades Specialist (Mason & Plasterer), Maintenance Supervisor 1, or Maintenance Supervisor 2. Generally work priorities and the nature and extent of the work to be performed are prescribed and materials are furnished. However, in the absence of such direction a mason may set priorities, requisition materials, and determine the work that has to be done.

Although the work of a Trades Specialist (Mason & Plasterer) is inspected periodically by the supervisor, incumbents are expected to work with considerable independence as is typical of a skilled trades worker.

COMMUNICATION

The nature of a Trades Specialist (Mason & Plasterer) activities generally restricts relationships to employees working within the same organizational unit including artisans in other trades. On occasion, however, incumbents may be

required to orally communicate with others in a State agency or facility on the reasons why work is being accomplished in the manner selected.

Typically, they supervise a masonry crew. Such relationships are characterized by frequent verbal communications in assigning work and providing instructions. Written and oral communications with the general public are not typical of this class. The tasks of this class are predominantly thing oriented and the involvement with others is not a factor in determining classification.

SUPERVISION EXERCISED

A Trades Specialist (Mason & Plasterer) frequently supervises other trades positions and subordinate employees and/or inmates in making assignments, giving instructions, and observing and inspecting work performed to ensure that instructions have been followed and that the quality of the work is satisfactory.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Non-competitive: successful completion of a NYS two-year Trades Specialist (Mason & Plasterer) Traineeship or NYS two-year masonry training program; OR successful completion of any equivalent masonry two-year training or apprenticeship program;* OR four (4) years of full-time experience in masonry under a skilled journey-level mason which would provide training equivalent to that

given in an apprenticeship program. Apprenticeship training in masonry or training gained by completion of technical courses in masonry at a school, institute, or branch of the Armed Services may be substituted on a year-for-year basis.

* Successful completion of the traineeship and the training program includes a total of 288 hours of trade-specific class room instruction, 45 hours of technical math course work, 45 hours of technical communications course work, and 15 hours of blueprint/schematic reading course work. Course work must be completed with an average of "C" or better. Additionally, successful completion of the traineeship also includes 4,000 hours of on-the-job training.

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.