

**New York State Department of Civil Service**  
DIVISION OF CLASSIFICATION & COMPENSATION

Classification Standard

**Occ. Code 7314100**

**Canal Worker 1, NS**  
**Canal Worker 2, NS**

**7314100**  
**7314200**

Brief Description of Class Series

Canal Workers perform a variety of unskilled and semi-skilled manual tasks related to the operation, maintenance and repair of canal equipment, vehicles, vessels, structures, channels, embankments, and grounds.

These positions are classified only at the Canal Corporation.

Distinguishing Characteristics

*Canal Worker 1:* labor class; assists with lock operation and maintenance, and the operation and maintenance of floating plant vessels, makes repairs to canal embankments and channels; assists with other routine maintenance tasks and operating motor vehicles.

*Canal Worker 2:* non-competitive; performs routine labor tasks and operates equipment, typically as part of a work crew; performs general routine maintenance tasks and operates motor vehicles and construction equipment.

Illustrative Duties

*Canal Worker 1*

As directed, performs routine maintenance of canal machinery, equipment, and vessels:

- Cleans and lubricates machinery, equipment, gears and cables and other moving parts; changes oil in motors.
- Prepares, polishes, and paints equipment, vessels, machinery, and structures.
- Cleans debris from locks, equipment, and surrounding areas.

- Assists higher-level workers in repairing and overhauling machinery, equipment, channels, and embankments.
- Assists higher-level Canal Workers in operating locks, gates and dams, and lift bridges, following detailed standing and special procedures; may operate equipment independently when supervised by higher-level staff at adjacent or nearby facilities.

Performs general maintenance tasks such as clearing sites, raking or tilling soil, mowing, cutting brush and wood, trimming, and removing trees, maintaining roads, trails, and sidewalks, and removing snow, trash, and other obstructions from around locks, dry docks, trails, and other canal structures and surrounding areas.

Inspects, checks, and patrols assigned areas to detect nonadherence to safety procedures, seepage, damage to banks and levees, navigational hazards, or vandalism.

Reports defects, possible hazards, or potentially dangerous conditions to appropriate staff.

Assists higher-level staff in dredging operations and vessel operations:

- Connects shore, pontoon pipe, and spillway pipe, and locates them as required.
- Assists in rigging of dredges and derrick boats.
- Handles lines and cables on tugs, tenders, and other vessels.
- Assists in dry-docking operations, handling lines, and cables.

Assists mechanics in performing routine and unskilled tasks in the repair and maintenance of automotive equipment and other machinery such as mounting and dismounting snowplows, salt spreaders, engines, transmissions, and differentials, performing minor engine tune-ups, changing oil, tires, batteries, and cleaning and polishing vehicles and vessels.

Assists with the setting, removal, and maintenance of navigational aids.

Operates a variety of tools and equipment including:

- Hand and power tools.
- Self-propelled and motorized equipment such as mowers, pumps, compressors, vehicles, small trucks, and light construction equipment.

*Canal Worker 2*

May perform structure operation duties:

- Assists higher-level staff in operating locks, guard gates, movable dams and lift bridges, and water control structures following detailed standing and special procedures; may operate equipment independently depending on assigned shift.
- Interacts with canal users to provide information on canal rules and regulations, conditions along the waterway and facilities, and respond to inquiries.
- Records operating data, daily weather, water level readings, a log of vessels passing through and any unusual occurrences in accordance with specific procedures and in a standard format.
- Performs regular routine maintenance tasks on such structural components as: AC and DC motors and generators, panel boards, gear trains and racks, checks fluid levels, replaces filters, replaces light bulbs, and fuses in arc lights and signals per standard instructions, and reports any malfunctions to higher-level staff.
- During the navigation season, they may provide guidance to seasonal staff who perform the most routine work in and around a canal structure.

May perform dredging operation duties:

- Assists staff in dredging operations and vessel operations; connects shore, pontoon pipe and spillway pipe, and locates them as required, assists in rigging of dredges and derrick boats and UPS repairs and maintenance.
- Assists with the setting, removal, and maintenance of navigational aids.
- Assists mechanics in performing routine and unskilled tasks in the repair and maintenance of equipment and other machinery including Floating Plant equipment and machinery.

Assists in a variety of maintenance activities during both the navigation and winter seasons such as pump outs, upland disposal site (UDS) and embankment preparation, maintenance, and repair, and responding to weather related emergency situations, as directed.

May operate trucks and construction equipment appropriate to the level of the Commercial Driver's License (CDL) required.

Performs routine maintenance of canal machinery, equipment, and vessels.

Assists higher-level workers in repairing and overhauling machinery, equipment, structures, channels, and embankments.

Operates a variety of hand and power tools according to the task at hand.

May act as a crew leader providing advice and assistance to crew members to aid in completing assignments.

### Minimum Qualifications

#### *Canal Worker 1*

Labor Class: There are no education or experience requirements for this class. Canal Workers 1 must be physically able to perform the tasks of the position and understand and carry out written and oral instructions.

#### *Canal Worker 2*

Non-competitive: Two years of experience in maintenance, repair and or mechanical work including at least one-year operating construction equipment, and possession of a valid New York State Class B Commercial Driver's License (CDL-B) with no air brake restriction.

Promotion: One year of permanent service as a Canal Worker 1, and possession of a valid New York State Class B Commercial Driver's License (CDL-B) with no air brake restriction.

**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 the work that might be appropriately performed by a class. The minimum qualifications above are those required for appointment at the time the Classification Standard was written. Please contact the Division of Staffing Services for current information on minimum requirements for appointment or examination.

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