

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

Classification Standard

Occ. Code 1621100

Mined Land Reclamation Specialist 1, Grade 18	1621100
Mined Land Reclamation Specialist 2, Grade 23	1621200
Mined Land Reclamation Specialist 3, Grade 27	1621300

Brief Description of Class Series

Mined Land Reclamation Specialists are responsible for the regulation of the mining industry under the Mined Land Reclamation Law, State Environmental Quality Review Act, Uniform Procedures Act, rules, regulations, and State policies and procedures. Positions in this title series are charged with carrying out the policy of the State to foster and encourage the development of an economically sound and stable mining industry and the orderly development of domestic mineral resources by performing technical and environmental reviews on mining and reclamation plans and procedures, investigating complaints, conducting enforcement, attending public hearings, approving or denying reclamation work, performing on-site inspections, and maintaining the mined land reclamation program databases and files.

These positions are classified only in the Department of Environmental Conservation.

Distinguishing Characteristics

Mined Land Reclamation Specialist 1: full performance level; performs technical and environmental reviews on mined land reclamation permit applications, modifications, and renewals; serves as the frontline field representative for the program conducting inspections, enforcement, investigations, and outreach; in the central office, implements reclamation initiatives with seized financial security, administers the regulatory fee program and provides support for regional programs.

Mined Land Reclamation Specialist 2: first supervisory level; in regional offices, manages the regional mined land reclamation program ensuring region-wide uniformity of the mined land reclamation program implementation; in the central office, supervises a team of Mined Land Reclamation Specialists and related technicians and manages various elements; and provides assistance to regional programs.

Mined Land Reclamation Specialist 3: one position class; supervises and directs program activities, and ensures the state-wide uniformity of implementation, of the mined land reclamation program.

Illustrative Tasks

Mined Land Reclamation Specialist 1

Performs technical and environmental reviews of new permit, applications, and modifications, and renews applications for mining permits in environmentally sensitive areas.

Performs detailed site inspections to evaluate existing conditions, viability of proposed plans, and potential impacts on surrounding properties.

Determines required reclamation financial security dollar amounts and makes recommendations on issuance of permits for new permit applications, modifications, and renewals.

Inspects mines to ensure compliance with Mined Land Reclamation Law, rules, regulations, and State policies and procedures.

Documents findings and instructs violators on how to correct violations.

Assesses concurrent reclamation at mine sites to ensure compliance with approved plans and permit conditions and recommends remedial actions where appropriate.

Assists in enforcement actions and investigations.

Assesses concurrent and final reclamation at closed mines including final grading, successful re-vegetation, water control features, visual screening, water impoundments, and dispositions of wastes.

Investigates and resolves inadequate reclamation work and suspected cases of mine abandonment.

Participates in industry and government meetings relating to the minerals industry.

Assists in conducting workshops and training seminars for the mining industry, government agencies, consultants, and the public.

Assists in the development of bid documents, contract procedures and oversight of reclamation performed with seized financial security.

Mined Land Reclamation Specialist 2

Supervises and evaluates subordinate professional and technical staff.

Informs supervisor of permit approvals or denials that are likely to be exceptionally controversial or lead to litigation.

Participates in meetings with the mining industry, government agencies and the public.

Develops and delivers workshops and training to program staff.

Manages reclamation performed with seized financial security.

Coordinates response to FOIL requests.

Provides mining text for the Department's unit management plans.

Leads negotiating sessions to resolve environmental concerns and other matters subject to controversy.

Assists legal staff in the preparation of litigated cases and attends public hearings.

Conducts complex analyses and studies in support of mining and mined land reclamation.

Reviews and makes determinations on regulatory fee disputes.

Assesses program performance by developing and maintaining communication networks and reporting systems.

Reviews proposed legislation that impacts the State's mined land reclamation program.

Mined Land Reclamation Specialist 3

Supervises and directs the activities of the Mined Land Reclamation program.

Provides guidance and direction to subordinates on program activities, regulatory functions, mineral and mining advocacy, long-term minerals management initiatives, and related activities.

Directs staff meetings and training seminars, establishes program goals, and directs the development of policy and technical guidance documents related to the program.

Develops and maintains uniform regulatory enforcement protocol for mined land reclamation program in cooperation with regional staff, enforcement staff, attorneys, and supervisors.

Coordinates and suggests amendments to the Mined Land Reclamation Law and proposes changes to existing rules and regulations.

Assigns and reviews unit management plans.

Reviews and approves reports and studies concerning minerals management, and mined land reclamation.

Serves as the agency representative in matters of local, statewide, or national/international interest as directed by supervisory staff.

Provides testimony as a witness and responds to legislative inquiries, press inquiries, or other interested parties' inquiries regarding proposed changes to the statute or rules and regulation.

Works with permit administration to evaluate and improve mining application processing that includes joint efforts to streamline Mined Land Reclamation Law, State Environmental Quality Review Act, Uniform Procedures Act, and the State Historic Preservation Act.

May serve as the Division's representative to national inter-governmental organizations such as the Interstate Mining Compact Commission.

Minimum Qualifications

Mined Land Reclamation Specialist 1

Open competitive: A bachelor's degree in agricultural engineering, agriculture, agronomy, animal science, atmospheric science, biological science, biology, botany, chemical engineering, chemical science, chemistry, civil engineering, conservation biology, ecology, ecosystem management, environmental biology, environmental engineering, environmental health, environmental planning, environmental science, environmental studies, environmental toxicology, forest science, forestry, geography, geological engineering, geology, horticulture, hydrology, landscape architecture, mining, mining engineering, natural resources, natural resources conservation, natural resources management, natural resources planning, natural science, petroleum engineering, physics, urban forestry, wildlife biology, wildlife science, or zoology; AND two years of professional experience in the mining and/or reclamation of land.

Mined Land Reclamation Specialist 2

Promotion: one year of service as a Mined Land Reclamation Specialist 1.

Mined Land Reclamation Specialist 3

Promotion: one year of service as a Mined Land Reclamation Specialist 2.

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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