



# **WATER OPERATOR II OR III**

## **City of Unalaska, Alaska**

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# THE COMMUNITY

Unalaska, Alaska (est. full-time pop. 4,195 plus seasonal influxes) is strategically located in the heart of the North Pacific and Bering Sea fisheries and is home of the number one commercial fishing port in the United States, the International Port of Dutch Harbor. The community is 50 miles from the North Pacific Great Circle Shipping Route and 800 miles southwest of Anchorage. This coastal community in the Eastern Aleutian Islands seamlessly blends industry and history, connected by a 40-mile network of roads that link the bustling port, harbors, private docks, local businesses, and residential areas on Unalaska and Amaknak Islands.

Unalaska's economy thrives on commercial fishing, seafood processing, fleet services, and marine transportation, with the Port of Dutch Harbor serving as a vital year-round, ice-free deep draft port designated as a Potential Port of Refuge. In 2021, it reclaimed its title as the leading commercial fishing port in the U.S., handling 745 million pounds of seafood valued at \$249 million. The Eastern Bering Sea Pollock fishery, the nation's largest, sets the stage for various fishing activities.

Unalaska also hosts the westernmost container terminal in the U.S., facilitating the efficient transshipment of cargo both domestically and internationally. The community offers a wide range of support services, from seafood processing to accounting, logistics, and marine support, making it a unique resource for the fishing industry in the region.

Unalaska boasts a climate characterized by a pleasantly moderate and consistent climate with summer temperatures ranging from 41-56° and winter temperatures between 31-40°. Precipitation averages 60" annually, with up to 90" of snowfall that tends to melt quickly. During the summer, Unalaska's scenery undergoes a remarkable change, with the hills bursting into vibrant shades of green and adorning themselves with an abundance of beautiful wildflowers and delicious berries, creating a picturesque and welcoming atmosphere.



# THE DEPARTMENT

The City of Unalaska is the service provider for water, wastewater, electric generation and distribution, and solid waste services. The Department of Public Utilities operates under the authority of the State of Alaska and the Alaska Public Utilities Commission. The responsibilities of the Department of Public Utilities are further defined in [Title 10 of the City of Unalaska Ordinances](#).

The Department of Public Utilities operates with an FY24 \$34.3 million operating proprietary funds budget. The Department of Public Utilities is also responsible for managing multiple capital projects in various stages of completion; maintaining current operating permits for all utilities; and submitting applications and questionnaires for project grants and funding. The Department operates and maintains 26 facilities.



## MISSION

*The Mission of the Department of Public Utilities is to provide electric, solid waste, wastewater, and water services that, within regulatory guidelines, meet or exceed the needs of our customers and our expectations for safety, quality, and quantity; to provide these services at a competitive price; and in a fair, equitable and environmentally responsible manner.*

## THE DIVISION

The Water Division maintains and operates two open and two enclosed reservoirs, three wells, one filtration-avoidance surface water treatment plant, twelve building facilities, 210 fire hydrants, 675 water services, 257 mainline valves and 20 miles of pipeline. The WD also works with customers and the public on health, water use and water quality related issues. The surface water treatment plant treats using on-site generated Sodium Hypochlorite and ultraviolet reactors, while the well water is treated with Chlorine gas.

The Water Division currently staffs one state certified water supervisor/operator, four full-time state certified water operators and a full-time medium equipment operator. The Division also hires temporary employees as needed. Additionally, the Division maintains a control system for our operation equipment, providing reliable service to the Utility's customers.





## THE POSITION

The Water Operator II and III is a mid-entry-level position that functions as the Lead and/or Senior Operator for the City of Unalaska Water Division under the general direction of the Water Supervisor.

The person in this position performs a variety of skilled, semi-skilled, and technical work in the construction, operation, repair, maintenance, and replacement of City water treatment and distribution systems.

As the lead operator in the Division, this position requires a significant level of responsibility and assists with the development of Water employees as junior operators and as crew members.

Click [here](#) to view job announcement.

## Skills and Abilities

Ability to establish and maintain working relationships with a significant variety of people including crew members, other City employees, the public, and vendors as well as other local, state and federal figures.

Ability to communicate effectively; both verbally and in writing. Significant interpersonal and problem-solving skills preferred.

Ability to make accurate readings, keep operational records, conduct routine rounds and sampling, interpret some chemical or biological analyses, and write detailed reports.

Skilled in the operation and use of hand, power and pneumatic tools, a multimeter and various leak detection device.

Skilled in the operation of a snow machine, motor vehicle and backhoe.

Ability to operate water system equipment and processes, diagnose malfunctions and take corrective action.

Ability to follow and review a pipe and wiring diagram, schematic or plan set.

Ability to assist in leading during projects with various crew members.

Ability to run the system work when components fail in a safe and efficient manner.



## Key Responsibilities

Participates in and occasionally oversees the installation, maintenance, operation, and repair of water treatment and distribution systems. Also oversees and trains junior operators as well as temporary crew members.

Responsible for inspecting, preventative maintenance, servicing, and adjusting equipment to ensure effective operation of motors, pumps, blowers, chemical systems, and other equipment used in the various water plants.

Monitors gauges, flow meters, SCADA and control devices; interprets and records readings; observes variations in operating conditions and test results to determine processing requirements; operates valves, gates and all other process equipment to control flow and treatment processes. Also starts / stops pumps and generators as may be required.

Maintains records, diagnoses equipment and operations malfunctions, requisitions supplies, takes remedial action to correct and/or report malfunctions. This includes data entry associated with Cartegraph and other computer related items.

Collects samples and performs standard and advanced water treatment tests or analysis as necessary and applies corrective measures to treatment processes.

Performs metering related processes as needed such as meter reads, installation inspections, and endpoint maintenance.

Responds to customer service needs and maintains good communication with the public, co-workers, vendors, contractors, and consultants as well as city, state and federal officials.

Provides utility locates and utility installation inspections as needed.

Keeps current on applicable rules, regulations and ordinances as well as monitoring and reporting requirements. Makes recommendations with respect to utility policies and procedures. Participates in utility planning and compliance reporting.

Represents the Division at public meetings or gatherings, such as health fairs, to distribute information and educate the public with respect to water and water related issues. Conducts visitor tours explaining plant and system operations.

Completes routine assignments and may be required to do work normally assigned to other operators or positions.

Other related duties as assigned.



# EDUCATION AND LICENSING

High school diploma and or GED required.

Valid driver's license

Level II: minimum three years of experience relating to the operation, construction, repair and/or maintenance of water treatment distribution systems, including the operation of related maintenance equipment. Must have or ability to obtain State of AK DEC Water Treatment Level 2 and DEC Water Distribution Level 2 Certification within 6 months of hire.

Level III: minimum four years of experience relating to the operation, construction, repair and/or maintenance of water treatment distribution systems, including the operation of related maintenance equipment. Must have or ability to obtain State of Alaska DEC Water Treatment Level 2 and DEC Water Distribution Level 3 Certification within 6 months of hire.



## COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS

- Level II \$40.00 - \$42.44 DOE; Level III \$43.83 - \$46.50 DOE
- 100% employer paid medical premiums (employee & dependents)
- 100% employer paid basic life/AD&D insurance (employee & dependents)
- 100% employer paid Lifelight insurance (employee & dependents)
- Free Parks, Culture and Recreation Membership (employee only)
- Relocation assistance (taxable) up to \$7,000, plus airfare for the employee and one family member, if applicable
- Travel allowance \$2,000 every year on date of hire after 1<sup>st</sup> year of employment
- Longevity bonus \$2,000 beginning on third (3<sup>rd</sup>) year anniversary
- Education Incentive per month, dependent on degree Associate \$200, BA \$300, Master \$400
- Paid Time Off starting at 16 hours a month, increases with longevity
- 10 paid Holidays and 3 Floating Holidays per year
- Eligible for 457 Retirement Plans with MissionSquare or Mutual of America and other Voluntary Benefits
- Eligible for PERS Retirement (Public Employees Retirement System)
- Up to 100% Tuition Reimbursement (must be taken while employed; refer to Title III for details)

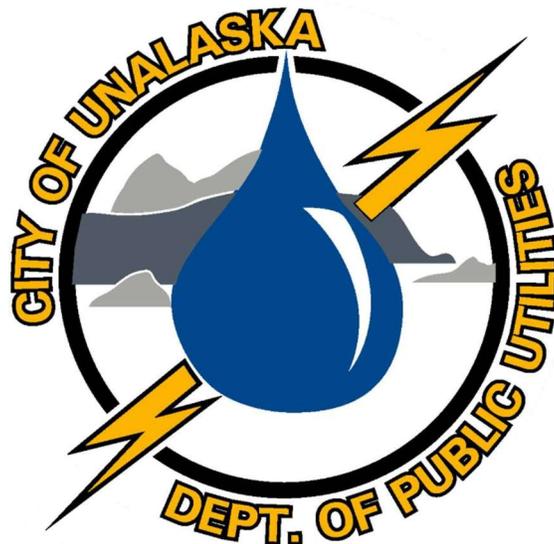


## APPLICATION PROCESS

Qualified candidates please submit your [application](#) through email to [hr@ci.unalaska.ak.us](mailto:hr@ci.unalaska.ak.us) or send by fax to (907)581-4469.

This position is open until filled; however, interested applicants are strongly encouraged to apply no later than July 31, 2024. For more information, please contact Erik Hernandez at [ehernandez@ci.unalaska.ak.us](mailto:ehernandez@ci.unalaska.ak.us) or McKenzie Berry at [mberry@ci.unalaska.ak.us](mailto:mberry@ci.unalaska.ak.us).

For more information about Unalaska, visit: <https://www.ci.unalaska.ak.us> or <https://www.facebook.com/Unalaska.DutchHarbor>



THE CITY OF UNALASKA IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

The City of Unalaska is an Employer of National Service and encourages AmeriCorps, Peace Corps, and other national service alumni to apply.