Municipal Utilities offer challenging & rewarding careers

Through municipally-owned utilities, communities all across Iowa provide vital services to their citizen-owners, including electricity, gas, water, and telecommunications.

Municipal utilities offer the satisfaction of local control over decisions. They employ thousands of people in jobs that combine public service with rewarding career opportunities.

An ever-increasing number of municipal utility employees in Iowa are over age 50. That means utilities are in search of replacements for retiring staff members.

This includes a wide range of jobs, such as clerical assistants, finance managers and accountants, electric lineworkers, gas technicians, water plant employees, utility superintendents, and many others.

Consider working for an organization that will invest in your professional development and will recognize excellence. Some utilities offer scholarship programs for students interested in working at their utility.

www.iamu.org/highschoolcareerinfo
WORK WITH TECHNOLOGY

- **Water Utility Operators**—Manage and operate drinking water utilities, water distribution systems, or waste water treatment plants.
- **Electric Lineworkers and Substation Personnel**—Construct and maintain power lines and substations.
- **Electric Generation Personnel**—Ensure the safe and efficient operation of power generation facilities.
- **Meter-Reader/Technician**—Install and test utility meters to ensure accurate registration of usage.
- **Electrical Engineer**—Design reliable electric power transmission, generation, and distribution systems.
- **Dispatcher**—Receive trouble calls and dispatch crews to worksites and schedule generation to match electric load.
- **Broadband Technician**—Install and maintain cable TV, fiber optics, etc.
- **Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) Technician**—Program, install, and maintain the utility system’s computer-based monitoring and control systems.

ENHANCE THE ENVIRONMENT

- **Energy Services Specialist**—Work with a municipal utility to implement and maintain energy efficiency plans with its customers. Work with home and business owners to help change their building or their lifestyle to use energy wisely.
- **Windsmiths**—Maintain and operate city-owned wind turbines.

MANAGE PROGRAMS AND PEOPLE

- **General Manager/Superintendent**—Manage all aspects of a utility.
- **Office Manager/Administrative Assistant**—Manage and assist with office operations.
- **Warehouse Manager**—Specify, order, and stock equipment needed for utility operations.
- **Human Resources Professional**—Recruit, interview, and hire personnel and oversee employee benefit packages and evaluations.
- **Financial Officer**—Track costs and consumer trends to help utility leadership set rate and service policies.
- **Accountant**—Keep, audit, and inspect financial records, and prepare financial and tax reports.
Preparing for a Career in Municipal Utilities

Community colleges and other educational institutions in Iowa and neighboring states offer programs to prepare students for careers in public utilities. Graduates can take advantage of high placement rates.

For some high positions, qualifications are met through a combination of work experience and continuing education courses or through an apprenticeship program. Municipal utility employees enjoy upward professional mobility as they gain experience.

To view positions currently open with Iowa Municipal Utilities, visit www.iamu.org/classifieds
LOOKING FOR A REWARDING CAREER?

Technical Programs for Utility-Related Skills

Wind Energy and Turbine Technology
Iowa Lakes Community College
Estherville, Iowa
www.iowalakes.edu

Powerline Technology Program
Northwest Iowa Community College
Sheldon, Iowa
https://nwicc.edu

Water and Wastewater Operator Program
Kirkwood Community College
Cedar Rapids, Iowa
www.kirkwoodcollege.com

Industrial Engineering
Iowa State University
Ames, Iowa
www.imse.iastate.edu

Water Environmental Technology and Wind Programs
Des Moines Area Community College
Ankeny, Iowa
www.dmacc.edu

Utility Technician Program
Iowa Valley Community College District
(Marshalltown Community College)
Marshalltown, Iowa
www.iavalley.edu

Electrical & Renewable Energy Technology Program
Indian Hills Community College
Ottumwa, Iowa
www.indianhills.edu

Gas Utility Construction and Service Program
Northeast Iowa Community College
Peosta, Iowa
www.nicc.edu

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