



**Code: 6324**

Family: Construction, Maintenance, and Skilled Labor  
Service: Operation and Construction Service  
Group: Engineering, Designing and Structural  
Series: Collective Bargaining

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## **CLASS TITLE: SANITATION LABORER**

### **CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CLASS**

Under immediate supervision, performs unskilled, physically demanding labor involving the lifting, loading and carrying of refuse and debris, the pushing/pulling and carrying of heavy objects, and other laborer activities relating to the sanitation of streets, alleys and public areas to protect the public health, and performs related duties as required.

Positions are allocated primarily to the Bureaus of Sanitation, Street Operations, and Rodent Control in the Department of Streets and Sanitation.

### **ESSENTIAL DUTIES**

Bureau of Sanitation:

- Load refuse carts by pushing/ wheeling carts to the back of refuse truck, positioning carts and operating hydraulic lever to lift, dump and compact the refuse into the truck's hopper
- Clean areas around refuse carts, shoveling, lifting and loading loose garbage, debris and bulk refuse onto truck's hopper
- Lift and load wire refuse baskets located on main thoroughfares, lifting and dumping refuse from baskets into truck's hopper and compacting refuse using hydraulic level mechanism
- Remove debris and bulk items to clean vacant lots, viaducts and homes under court ordered cleaning, shoveling, sweeping, and picking up garbage and loading onto trucks for removal
- Post street sweeping and other sanitation signs, carrying cardboard signs and walking assigned geographical areas, tying signs onto trees and fences and/or removing old signs
- Perform other laborer activities related to the bureau's functions and work operations

Bureau of Rodent Control:

- Bait rat burrows with rodenticides, carrying buckets of rodenticide pellets and placing them directly into burrow, closing off burrow entrance and re-baiting as needed
- Load and unload rodenticides onto work vehicles and performs related laborer tasks
- Explain to homeowners purpose of site visit and obtains permission to access and walk around the outside areas of private property to visually locate and identify rat burrows
- Remove active wasp hives or insect nests found in trees in city parkways, using poles or riding in a lift basket to required heights to cut down hives and nests and/or apply pesticides
- Bait sewers, lifting sewer covers and lowering block form of rodenticide into sewers
- Remove dead animals from streets, parkways and private property, lifting and placing animals into required bags and loading and unloading them for transport and proper disposal
- Assemble new refuse carts by snapping on wheels and steel bars on carts
- Load and unload carts and deliver to ward offices and residential homes; pick up damaged refuse carts and return to warehouse

**Bureau of Street Operations:**

- Load and unload snow fence materials and installs by rolling fence material and attaching to poles using wire and wire cutters
- Clean and clear vacant lots and viaducts of debris, using shovels, picks, rakes and brooms to pick up and bag garbage and debris and load onto dump trucks
- Assist with garage demolitions, shoveling, picking up and loading trucks with debris and materials left after tear down of structures
- Work on graffiti removal crews, using soda blasting equipment by positioning and aiming hoses to remove graffiti from surfaces of structures
- Power wash streets, sidewalks and viaducts, lifting and using hoses and cleaning solvents to clean designated areas
- Assigned to Loop Operations, perform a variety of duties including driving a pick-up truck to various sites to sweep, pick up garbage and clear areas of debris; lift and dump filled garbage bags and replace bags in street waste baskets; manually clean and remove graffiti using spray solvents; spread sand in vehicle accident areas; sweep and clean sidewalks and curbs using heavy-duty long handled dustpans and brooms; lift and dump street baskets into refuse truck hoppers; and power wash sidewalks and alleys
- Drive a city pick-up truck to transport tools and needed resources (i.e. port- a-potty) to various work sites for S.W.A.P. (Sheriff's Work Alternative Program)
- Mounts quick hitch plows to refuse trucks, shovels sand to fill sand bags and manually spreads sand; breaks up salt to ensure proper spreading; loads, unloads and sets up barricades

**NOTE:** *The list of essential duties is not intended to be inclusive; there may be other duties that are essential to particular positions within the class.*

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS**

**Education, Training, and Experience**

- Willingness and ability to perform the duties of the job

**Licensure, Certification, or Other Qualifications**

- Depending on job assignments, some positions require a valid State of Illinois driver's license

**WORKING CONDITIONS**

- Exposure to outdoor weather conditions

**EQUIPMENT**

- Manual tools (e.g., shovels, rakes, brooms, buckets, scoops, hand tools)
- Personal protective equipment (e.g., shoes, safety glasses, gloves, vest, pads)
- Powered cleaning equipment (e.g., power washers)

**PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS**

- Extremely heavy lifting and carrying ranging from 75 to 100 pounds is required
- Ability to stand, walk and bend for extended or continuous periods of time
- Ability to move one's hands and arms to grasp or manipulate objects
- Ability to climb (e.g., staircases, ladders, access cabs of trucks or vehicles)

- Ability to operate applicable hand tools and equipment

## **KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES, AND OTHER WORK REQUIREMENTS**

### **Knowledge**

Some knowledge of:

- applicable safety practices and procedures specific to labor work, including OSHA standards
- use of safety equipment and protective gear
- geographical areas of the city

Knowledge of applicable City and department policies, procedures, rules, regulations, and ordinances

### **Skills**

- \*ACTIVE LISTENING - Give full attention to what other people are saying, take time to understand the points being made, ask questions as appropriate, and not interrupt at inappropriate times

### **Abilities**

- COMPREHEND ORAL INFORMATION - Listen to and understand information and ideas presented through spoken words and sentences
- SPEAK - Communicate information and ideas in speaking so others will understand
- COMPREHEND WRITTEN INFORMATION - Read and understand information and ideas presented in writing

### **Other Work Requirements**

- STAMINA - Demonstrate energy and stamina to accomplish work tasks
- COOPERATION - Be pleasant with others on the job and display a good-natured, cooperative attitude
- DEPENDABILITY - Demonstrate reliability, responsibility, and dependability and fulfill obligations
- ATTENTION TO DETAIL – Pay careful attention to detail and thoroughness in completing work tasks

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All employees of the City of Chicago must demonstrate commitment to and compliance with applicable state and federal laws, and City ordinances and rules; the City's Ethics standards; and other City policies and procedures.

The City of Chicago will consider equivalent foreign degrees, accreditations, and credentials in evaluating qualifications.

\* May be required at entry.