City of Phoenix

Solid Waste Equipment Operator

Job Code:	72080	Job Function:	Trades
Salary Plan:	002	Grade:	143
FLSA:	Nonexempt	Labor Assign:	Unit 1 LIUNA 777
Benefit Cat:	001	EEO-4:	Service Maintenance
SOC:	53-7081.00	Last Revision:	July 2026

This description shall not be held to exclude other duties not specifically mentioned that are of similar kind or level of difficulty as the examples of typical functions of the classification. They are intended to describe the general nature and level of work being performed by individuals assigned to positions in this classification.

DEFINITION:

The fundamental reason this classification exists is to provide safe, efficient, and economical operation of commercial vehicles and equipment used in the collection of solid waste. Solid Waste Equipment Operators work under the general supervision of a Solid Waste Foreman to ensure they are qualified to operate the assigned equipment in accordance with requirements, understand the collection schedule and other assigned tasks, and accomplish their assigned tasks at an acceptable level of proficiency.

SUPERVISION RECEIVED/GIVEN:

Supervision is received from a Solid Waste Foreman or other supervisor.

EXAMPLES OF TYPICAL JOB FUNCTIONS (Illustrative Only):

- Operates rear loading packer truck, collecting uncontained refuse in a designated area
- Operates wheel type tractor, front-end loader with clamshell bucket.
- Operates a mechanical, side loading packer truck, collecting solid waste on a designated route, including streets and alleys
- Daily pre-trip and post-trip inspections to include a 7-step air brake check.
- Daily job assignments may vary and include work in the bulk trash collection operation and contained operation.
- Drives the loaded truck to the landfill and dumps the load, returning to the designated route
- Operates hydraulically operated arms to lift mechanized containers which are emptied into the truck and hydraulic rams to compact the refuse
- Detects, identifies, and reports improper equipment performance and makes necessary operational adjustments
- Complies with department's policies and procedures
- Use onboard, smart technology tools to navigate and service customers
- Complete assigned routes within daily work shift hours. Overtime may be required to ensure completion of daily routes.
- Maintains regular and reliable attendance
- Demonstrates superior seamless customer service, integrity, and commitment to innovation, efficiency, and fiscally responsible activity

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REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE AND ABILITIES:

Knowledge of:

- Traffic laws, ordinances, and rules involved in equipment operation.
- The hazards, safety rules and precautions of operating commercial motor vehicles

Ability to:

- Operate commercial motor vehicles.
- Read and follow route maps.
- Understand and follow written and oral instructions in the English language.
- Work independently in the performance of duties.
- Work cooperatively with other City employees and the public.
- Make fine, highly controlled muscular movements to adjust the position of a control mechanism (example: operating levers or pedals).
- Enter and exit the cab of a solid waste truck that is 3.5 feet off the ground continuously throughout the day.
- Work safely without presenting a direct threat to self or others.
- Travel across uneven or rocky surfaces in alleys or at the landfill.
- Lift arms above shoulder level to enter the equipment cab.
- Clean equipment using appropriate materials such as a high pressure hose when needed.
- Perform repetitive manual labor, including the ability to lift a minimum of 50 pounds.
- Work in a variety of weather conditions, including extreme outside temperatures, with exposure to the outdoor elements.
- Sit for long periods of time.
- Perform basic computer skills and utilize technology such as tablets, e-mail, and smartphones.
- Report to various job locations as assigned. There are several yards located throughout the city.

Additional Requirements:

- This classification requires the use of personal or City vehicles on City business. Individuals must be physically capable of operating the vehicles safely, possess a valid driver's license and have an acceptable driving record. In addition, individuals are required to pass an Arizona Department of Transportation physical exam and possess the appropriate commercial driver's license (CDL). Pre-employment drug testing is required, and employees will be subject to unannounced alcohol and drug testing as a condition of continued employment. Use of a personal vehicle for City business will be prohibited if the employee does not have personal insurance coverage.
- Some positions will require the performance of other essential and marginal functions depending upon work location, assignment, or shift.

ACCEPTABLE EXPERIENCE AND TRAINING:

Completion of City of Phoenix Solid Waste Equipment Operator Apprenticeship (2000 hours) OR one year of experience operating commercial motor vehicles with a minimum Gross Vehicle Weight of 26,001 or more pounds. Possession of appropriate commercial driver's license (CDL) at time of hire. Other combinations of experience and education that meet the minimum qualifications may be substituted.



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