

WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

TITLE: Recreation/Sports Specialist III

GRADE: M - 5

FUNCTIONS:

This position provides journey-level craft labor, working with tools to install, construct, repair, replace, overhaul, and perform preventive maintenance for irrigation and underground sprinkling systems relating to sports fields; landscape forms including fences, retaining walls, and walkways; and other exterior features of the campus grounds. This position is responsible for the scheduling of sport fields painting in accordance with all athletic association rules and game schedules. This position is responsible for the scheduling of equipment for preventative maintenance and repair. This position operates light equipment required to install, maintain, and repair grounds, landscaping, landscape forms and structures. The incumbent operates forklifts; front-end loaders; lift trucks; tractors with a variety of attachments including buckets, brushes, thatchers, aerators, seeders, landscape rakes and snowplows; tailgate trucks; skid loaders with attachments; forklifts; and other light equipment. The incumbent may be assigned to snow removal for a significant portion of the work shift during winter months. The incumbent constructs, repairs and maintains irrigation and sprinkler systems, retaining walls, as well as other small structures, working with both wood and dry-stack materials. The incumbent trims bushes and trees interfering with athletic field fencing. The incumbent cleans gutters and rain spouts; installs memorial plaques at designated campus locations; sets up and dismantles fixtures and furniture for campus functions; and installs banners. This position gives work direction to Recreation/Sports Specialists I and II.

The incumbent uses equipment to prepare sections of ground for streets, walkways, and parking lots; to excavate flower and shrub beds and tree wells; to excavate and grade sites for construction of landscape forms and other small structures; to form ground for drainage areas; to remove snow and ice from parking lots, roads, and walkways; to load other vehicles; and to perform other landscape and ground maintenance and installation functions. This position fastens attachments to trucks and tractors with wedge-pin and other hitches; connects hydraulic hoses, belts, mechanical linkages and/or power takeoff shafts to trucks and tractors to provide power to raise, lower and tilt attachments; and operates levers and foot pedals to maneuver attachments while driving vehicles. The incumbent must wear MIOSHA approved safety shoes at all times and must wear a hard hat and safety glasses when operating equipment and hand-held power tools as required by MIOSHA rules. During winter months, the incumbent operates light tractors with front loaders and snow throwers to remove snow from parking lots and performs other snow and ice removal services. This position performs additional duties as requested by supervisory personnel.

QUALIFICATIONS:

The incumbent must have a Michigan Department of Agriculture Commercial Core Pesticide Applicator license in at least the categories right-of-way (category 6), turf (category 3a), and ornamental (category 3b) is required. Possession of a valid Michigan Commercial Driver's License (CDL) with air brakes "B" endorsement is required. The incumbent will be expected to attend classes, paid for by the University, to keep refreshed on sports fields maintenance methods and new equipment available to perform athletic grounds work efficiently.

The incumbent must be able to read and comprehend written instructions and safety regulations governing the performance of job duties, and must be able to understand and comply with oral instructions. The incumbent must be able to lay out and correctly mark athletic fields, and must have sufficient writing ability to provide written instructions for other athletic grounds crew members.

In order to perform the essential functions of the job, the incumbent must be able to raise 100 lbs. dead weight to a height of three feet (36") with or without mechanical assistance, and must be able to raise and move materials and equipment weighing up to 1.5 tons with mechanical assistance and with the aid of other employees.

The incumbent must be able to move carts carrying athletic fixtures weighing up to 800 lbs. a distance of 175 feet and must be able to operate hydraulic jacks to raise and lower fixtures weighing up to 1.5 tons to/from heights of 18" - 24" above floor level. The incumbent must be able to raise 5-gallon pails of paint to a height of 36" to fill the paint marking equipment four to five times per day to mark fields. In order to mow all grounds in and around sports fields, the incumbent must be able to operate a walk-behind mower across the face of a slope of more than 17 degrees.

The incumbent must be able to raise, manipulate and maneuver equipment, grounds materials, and athletic fixtures and equipment. The incumbent must be able to operate hydraulic couplers to attach mowing, tilling, seeding and other equipment to tractors and to operate hydraulic jacks raising and lowering bleachers, backboards and other fixtures.

The incumbent must be able to ascend a ladder to a height of 10 feet and must be able to hang basketball curtains while positioned on a ladder at that height. The incumbent must be able to move forward and backward while operating paint markers, other mechanical devices, self-propelled gasoline-powered mowers and other equipment. The incumbent must be able to spend up to 6 hours per day in the process of marking and maintaining athletic fields and indoor game and practice spaces.

The incumbent must be able to tolerate the full range of weather conditions, as well as exposure to paint fumes, paint thinners, gasoline, fertilizers, pesticides and other landscaping chemicals and compounds. In order to obtain a valid Michigan commercial driver's license, the incumbent must possess 20/40 vision with or without corrective lenses. The incumbent must be able to properly align backboards and other fixtures and to correctly lay out and mark fields that may exceed that standard. The incumbent must have sufficient auditory acuity with or without audiological appliances to hear vehicle/equipment warning sounds signaling that a vehicle/piece of equipment is backing up.

A physical examination administered by the employer's designated physician is required to determine the incumbent's ability to perform the essential functions of the job, and/or to identify the need for reasonable job accommodations.