

WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

TITLE: Recreation/Sports Specialist I

GRADE: M-3.5

FUNCTIONS:

This position maintains the general condition and appearance of all indoor and outdoor athletic facilities including outdoor intramural fields and game spaces. This position lays out and marks five (5) football fields, including the varsity field in Waldo Stadium, four (4) softball diamonds, five (5) soccer fields and one (1) baseball field. A single field may have a total surface area of as much as 74,000 square feet. During playing season, each field must be marked as often as twice per week. Football fields require lines every 5 yards and hash marks every yard (36"). This position employs a self-propelled paint-marker weighing 1000 lbs. to mark fields. The incumbent mows and trims practice and playing fields and associated grounds, using manual and self propelled mowers, a riding mower and hand tools. The incumbent applies fertilizers and pesticides and waters fields and associated grounds. This position operates brush hog mowers, seeding equipment and rototillers in maintaining the grass surfaces of practice fields and game spaces, and operates front-end loaders and tractors to move materials and equipment.

This position lays out and sets up indoor and outdoor spaces for athletic contests and practices and nonathletic uses. The incumbent moves, assembles, dismantles and removes high jump and pole vault pits consisting of three foam rubber sections, 4' by 10' by 2.5' in dimension and weighing 100 lbs. to 600 lbs. twice a week for football practices. With assistance from other athletic grounds crew members, the incumbent moves, sets up, aligns and removes Hydra-Rib basketball backboards set on wheeled bases weighing 800 lbs. each. The hydraulic base must be raised/lowered 3" from the floor to free/brake wheels and the entire backboard assembly must be rolled a distance of 175' from/to storage areas. Auxiliary baskets weighing 300 lbs. each must be moved from storage areas to practice and/or intramural courts approximately 5-6 times per week. In addition to moving and assembling backboards, the incumbent hangs basketball curtains above the court floor.

The position moves, assembles, dismantles and removes to storage areas portable bleachers used at intercollegiate and intramural athletic contests and nonathletic events. The incumbent uses a hydraulic bleacher jack to raise and lower sections and, with three or four other employees, pushes individual wheeled bleacher sections weighing 3,000 lbs. each into place and uses a bleacher hook to extend/retract bleachers. This position assembles, dismantles, moves to and from storage areas, aligns, adjusts, and maintains other athletic equipment and fixtures as required for specific athletic contests, practices and other events.

This position performs operator maintenance for tools and athletic grounds equipment as necessary to maintain the operating condition of said tools and equipment. The incumbent maintains the work area, tools, equipment and assigned vehicles in a neat, clean and orderly condition, and performs all work in accordance with established safety practices. The incumbent

must wear steel or MIOSHA approved safety shoes at all times and must comply with all ISHA/MIOSHA regulations regarding the use of pesticides, fertilizers and other chemical agents as well as the operation of power tools and equipment. As required, the incumbent wears a hard hat and safety glasses/goggles. In the absence of the M-4.5 Recreation/Sports Specialist II, the incumbent may be required to provide work direction for other members of the athletic grounds crews and to schedule or prioritize assignments. This position performs additional duties as requested by supervisory personnel.

QUALIFICATIONS:

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. Must be able to lay out and correctly mark athletic fields, and must have sufficient writing ability to provide written instruction for other athletic grounds crew members. Prior athletic grounds experience is preferred.

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' 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 cans of paint to a height of 36" to fill the paint marking equipment four or five times per day to mark fields. In order to mow all grounds in Waldo Stadium, the incumbent must be able to maneuver an 80 lb. gasoline powered mower up and down a 70°incline.

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 ladders 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 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. The incumbent must have sufficient auditory acuity with or without audiological appliances or 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 identify the need for reasonable job accommodations.