



**Invites Applications for the Position of:  
SYSTEM OPERATOR I/II  
\$75,752 — \$97,546 Annually DOQ/DOE  
plus excellent benefits!**

**Open Until Filled**

## ***Job Summary:***

Under the general supervision of the Water Distribution Supervisor, performs various duties including checking distribution system pressures, flows, reservoir levels, water quality, and system equipment. Serves as Duty Officer on a rotational basis, investigates customer complaints and applies all standard safety practices.

## ***Distinguishing Characteristics:***

**System Operator I** – This is an entry-level class in the System Operator series. Positions at this level typically have a basic understanding of water distribution principles including: hydraulics, treatment, water quality, control systems and mathematics.

Must possess a Water Distribution Operator D2 certification (or higher) administered by the California Drinking Water Operator Certification program.

**System Operator II** – This is a journey level class in the System Operator series. In order to qualify for promotion, an Operator I must meet or exceed expectations in performance reviews in the System Operator I classification, or have achieved the equivalent of this requirement with another water purveyor. A System Operator II is accorded greater autonomy and requires less supervision than a System Operator I.

Must possess a Water Distribution Operator D3 certification (or higher) administered by the California Drinking Water Operator Certification program.

## ***Essential Functions:***

1. Monitors and operates the distribution system manually or via the District's supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) system to ensure optimal storage, pressure and water quality, and to prevent or investigate abnormal or alarm conditions.
2. Inspects, monitors, troubleshoots and performs maintenance and minor repairs on various distribution system facilities and equipment including: booster pumps and pump stations; motors; chlorination equipment; reservoirs; control valves; and water quality equipment.
3. Performs water distribution related tasks such as emergency and scheduled shutdowns, including notifying customers and other affected parties and/or agencies and ensuring District compliance with its National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit.
4. Handles inquiries and investigates complaints from the District's customers related to water quality, leaks, pressure and flow.
5. May serve as Duty Officer, SCADA Operator and/or Weekend Shift Operator as necessary. Required to respond to all after hour calls to investigate, troubleshoot, prioritize and alleviate reported problems.
6. Frequently enters confined spaces to perform routine maintenance on control valves and other distribution system appurtenances.

## ***Essential Functions (Continued):***

7. Collects and tests water samples for chlorine, ammonia, nitrite, fluoride, pH, conductivity, and temperature.
8. Prepares and maintains water treatment, distribution and other reports.
9. Directly supervises the Emergency Duty Crew as required. Assists in assuring the District's compliance with policy and laws, including Department of Transportation regulations and the District's alcohol and drug free workplace testing requirements.
10. Performs related work as assigned.

## ***Qualifications:***

1. Education and experience equivalent to graduation from high school.
2. Must have a valid California driver's license and be acceptable to the District's automobile liability insurance carrier.
3. Must possess a Water Treatment Operator T1 certification (or higher) administered by the California Drinking Water Operator Certification program.
4. Must demonstrate skills necessary to perform activities using computers in a networked computer environment, including spreadsheets, word processing, SCADA applications, presentation software and other business functions such as purchasing and maintenance.
5. Prior experience in water distribution or water treatment is desirable.
6. Must pass fit testing for an air purifying respirator.

## ***Essential Functions as Duty Officer:***

This position acts as Duty Officer, assuming full responsibility on weekends and after normal business hours. The Duty Officer has responsibility for:

1. Giving direction to and supervising the work of employees and crews involved in emergency repairs of the District's distribution system, including the authority to make recommendations, through the chain of command, to the General Manager to rate the performance and need for discipline of crew members who worked under their authority.
2. Under the direction of the District's Director of Operations and Field Services, has the delegated authority to make all operational decisions affecting the District's water distribution and treatment system and facilities.
3. Monitoring pumps and related flow and pressure control and storage facilities manually or by using a SCADA system.
4. Performing scheduled and emergency shutdowns, overseeing flushing and water quality sampling activities.
5. Investigating customer complaints.
6. Initiates the Report of Damage process for all incidents where the District is potentially responsible for causing damage to property of others and/or where a responsible other party has damaged District property. Works closely with the Safety and Risk Manager to ensure that the District's interests are protected.
7. Serves as the District's first-responder and initial on-site Standardized Emergency Management System Incident Commander for all weekend and after-hours emergencies and service interruptions.

## ***Essential Functions as Duty Officer:***

8. Duty officers are required to reside in a location in which they can report to the District's headquarters facility within 45 minutes of normal drive time as determined by the method approved by the General Manager.

### **REQUIRED SKILLS:**

The System Operator I/II must demonstrate dependability, reliability, ethics, judgment, superior work habits, technical skills and ability to introduce and assist employees in learning technical skills and in developing successful and positive relationships with their employer. The System Operator I/II must also:

1. Communicate effectively both orally and in writing.
2. Speak, write and read the English language.
3. Understand and carry out oral and written instructions.
4. Establish and maintain effective working relations with other District personnel, and agencies, and promote good relations with the public.
5. Work irregular schedules.

## ***Benefits:***

The District provides the following benefits:

- Medical Insurance (Employee and dependents).
- Vision Care (Employee and dependents – employee contribution required).
- Dental Insurance (Employee and dependents – employee contribution required).
- Life Insurance (2 x Annual Salary).
- Accidental Death and Dismemberment Insurance.
- Disability Insurance (30-day qualification period).
- PERS (Public Employees Retirement System) Pension—employee contribution required.
- 13 paid holidays and 15 days of vacation.
- Paid sick leave.
- Deferred compensation match.
- College tuition reimbursement.
- Pre-tax spending accounts for medical and dependent care.
- Alternative work schedule (every other Friday off - optional).

## ***The District:***

Vista Irrigation District (District) was formed in 1923 to provide water to the community of Vista. The District also supplies water to portions of the cities of Escondido, Oceanside, San Marcos and some unincorporated areas of San Diego County. Located seven miles from the Pacific Ocean in northern San Diego County, Vista is the "climatic wonderland of the United States" with an average daily temperature of 74 degrees.

## *The District:*

Rolling hills and a pleasant rural surrounding, combined with relatively affordable housing prices and a strong community, make Vista an ideal place to live and work. Vista has been recognized in a national publication as being one of the “50 fabulous places to raise a family.” In addition to the beautiful beaches to the west, within a 60-mile radius of Vista can be found the dynamic city of San Diego and the Mexican border to the south, snow-capped mountains and majestic deserts to the east, and Disneyland and the Los Angeles metropolitan area to the north.

The District supplies potable water to over 29,000 customers in a 21,152-acre service area with a population of nearly 133,000 people. The District receives local water from Lake Henshaw, which it owns, imported water from Northern California and the Colorado River via the San Diego County Water Authority (Water Authority) and the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California and desalinated seawater from the Claude “Bud” Lewis Carlsbad Desalination Plant via the Water Authority. The District currently employs 87 people.

**Regular employees in this position may join the Teamster Union. The System Operator I/II is a non-exempt position and eligible for overtime compensation under the Fair Labor Standards Act and in accordance with District Policy.**

Vista Irrigation District is “an equal opportunity employer” and will consider reasonably accommodating qualified disabled persons. Reasonable accommodations can include, but are not limited to, changing job duties, changing the work shifts, accommodating schedules, relocating the work area, and providing mechanical or electrical aids.

**The provisions of this announcement do not constitute an expressed or implied contract, and any provisions contained herein may be modified or revoked without notice.**

## *Selection Process:*

The most appropriately qualified applicants will be invited to continue in the selection process which may consist of competency testing (including a practical exam), a written exercise and oral interviews by District personnel or qualified individuals from other public agencies or any combination thereof. The District expressly reserves the right to change the selection process in order to identify the most qualified candidates as required by federal and state law.

To help streamline the application and hiring process, we have implemented new recruiting software. All applicants will apply via our website at [www.vidwater.org](http://www.vidwater.org) under the “careers tab”. **We will no longer accept paper applications.** You will need to upload your resume and cover letter on our new application portal.

*(No faxes or resumes in lieu of District application).*

*Job offers are contingent upon a pre-employment medical examination and drug testing.*

**Oral interviews and testing will be done in compliance with local and state COVID-19 protocols and may include remote interviews as well as onsite physically distanced interviews/testing.**

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