



City of Sunnyvale

## Laboratory/Field Technician - Field

<b>SALARY</b>	\$38.76 - \$49.47 Hourly	<b>LOCATION</b>	Sunnyvale, CA
<b>JOB TYPE</b>	Full-Time	<b>JOB NUMBER</b>	25-00132
<b>DEPARTMENT</b>	Environmental Services	<b>DIVISION</b>	Regulatory Program
<b>OPENING DATE</b>	12/15/2025	<b>CLOSING DATE</b>	1/20/2026 5:00 PM Pacific

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### Description

#### **LABORATORY/FIELD TECHNICIAN - FIELD** REGULAR FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

**The final filing date is Tuesday, January 20, 2026 at 5:00 pm or after receiving 100 qualified and complete applications, whichever is first.**

The City of Sunnyvale is currently recruiting for a **Field Technician** to join the Environmental Services Department team! The Environmental Services Department provides comprehensive and innovative utility services for Sunnyvale's residents, businesses and facilitates initiatives to achieve the City's sustainability objectives. The Department brings together technical, operational, and administrative professional disciplines to form its dedicated and dynamic team.

City of Sunnyvale Field Technicians work in the field when assigned to the Compliance Inspection group in the Regulatory Programs Division. Field Technicians work under the supervision of the Senior Environmental Compliance Inspector primarily in the field collecting samples from industries, restaurants and the sanitary sewer collection system in order to determine compliance with local and federal discharge limits. The Field Technicians in Compliance Inspection work closely with the Environmental Compliance Inspectors to regulate dischargers. Field technicians also perform sampling at designated drinking water locations.

Additionally, the City of Sunnyvale offers:

- Comprehensive medical, dental, and vision benefits
- Classic CalPERS members have 4% of the employee contributions paid by the City, leaving only 3% for the employee to contribute
- Retiree medical benefits available

For a complete job description, click here: [Laboratory/Field Technician](#)

Under general supervision of the Senior Environmental Chemist or Senior Environmental Compliance Inspector, monitors and collects various samples of industrial waste, Water Pollution Control Plant influents and effluents, recycled water, potable water, storm water and other related discharges using various monitoring and sampling equipment; performs

chemical, physical and bacteriological analyses testing of water, wastewater and/or industrial wastewater using laboratory and/or field instrumentation and analytical techniques; conduct basic inspections of treatment processes and facilities; and performs related work as required.

## **DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS**

The position of Laboratory/Field Technician is a fully qualified journey-level technical classification. The Laboratory/Field Technician is distinguished from the higher-level Environmental Chemist I or Environmental Compliance Inspector by the lower-level analytical techniques used in laboratory analysis, inspection, and regulatory compliance activities.

## **Essential Job Functions**

*(May include, but are not limited to, the following):*

- Collects samples from locations within the Water Pollution Control Plant for operational decisions regarding treatment or process control in accordance with Federal, State and Local requirements.
- Collects samples from drinking water sources within the City's water distribution system for laboratory analysis, ensuring compliance with Federal, State and Local requirements.
- Collects samples from receiving waters in proximity to the Water Pollution Control Plant via boat.
- Performs physical, chemical and bacteriological analyses of potable water, wastewater or industrial waste samples using analytical techniques or instruments in accordance with approved protocols or methods in the field or the laboratory.
- Maintains records of physical, chemical and bacteriological tests performed on samples.
- Reviews logbooks, field data, recordings, and other documentation related to the drinking water system discharges from the Water Pollution Control Plant, and industrial and commercial sites.
- Keeps detailed and accurate records of field activities and observations, using logbooks, laboratory analysis sheets and computerized software programs.
- Performs work assignments in accordance with appropriate safety rules, regulations and, when necessary, emergency procedures.
- Maintains field equipment and vehicles for daily use in the field; operates motor vehicles to access sampling sites for collection of samples.
- Assists laboratory and inspection staff with special assignments, under direction of assigned supervisor.
- Attends staff and professional meetings, training classes and workshops.
- Responds and assists in development of analytical test methods, monitoring techniques and other laboratory/monitoring services.

In addition to the above, if assigned to the Compliance Inspection Group, duties may include but are not limited to the following:

- Collects wastewater samples from industrial dischargers in accordance with Federal, State and Local requirements.
- Performs various monitoring activities for the Compliance Inspection Group, including dye testing and flow monitoring.
- Collects wastewater from residential and commercial discharges via sanitary sewer manholes in the street.
- Collects measurements from Grease Removal Devices at commercial facilities.
- Collects samples from receiving waters and via storm system manholes.
- Conducts initial surveys of industrial and commercial facilities and drinking water complaint investigations.

## **WORKING CONDITIONS**

Position requires prolonged sitting, standing, walking on level, uneven and slippery surfaces, reaching, twisting, turning, kneeling, bending, squatting and stooping in the performance of daily activities. The position also requires grasping, repetitive hand movement and fine coordination in using a computer keyboard and certain tools. The position also

requires near and far vision when performing tasks such as inspections and repair work, in reading written work-related documents and using a computer. Acute hearing is required when providing phone and personal customer service. The need to lift, drag, carry and push equipment, tools and supplies up to 50 pounds is also required. Additionally, the incumbent may be exposed to mechanical and electrical hazards, loud noise, and inclement weather conditions, such as wet, heat and cold. Some of these requirements may be accommodated for otherwise qualified individuals requiring and requesting such accommodations.

## Minimum Qualifications

### Education and Experience:

The minimum qualifications for education and experience can be met in the following way:

An Associate degree or 60 semester units or 90 quarter units from an accredited college or university in environmental science, including courses in chemistry, biology or other related science, AND

Two years of experience performing field technician and/or laboratory duties.

A Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university in environmental science, including courses in chemistry, biology or other related science may be substituted for one year of experience.

### Knowledge of:

- Basic chemistry principles and/or basic laboratory testing methods.
- Sampling techniques and chain of custody procedures.
- Basic principles of potable water, wastewater and/or industrial waste pretreatment.
- Field and laboratory safety practices and procedures.
- Recordkeeping techniques.
- Office methods, procedures, software and equipment.

### Ability to:

- Collect samples in the field.
- Conduct chemical tests and analysis.
- Use potable water and/or wastewater monitoring equipment.
- Maintain accurate data and keep detailed records.
- Develop precise and detailed statistical information, charts and data files.
- Read and interpret complex technical documents and instructions.
- Safely work with and around wastewater, industrial wastes and hazardous substances and in the immediate vicinity of chemicals and reactive agents used in industrial waste treatment.
- Carry out specific functions in the laboratory.
- Follow instructions and procedures.
- Interpret tests appropriately and convey results clearly.
- Convey technical information to supervisor, professional and field personnel.
- Operate a computer using word processing and business software and other office equipment.
- Communicate effectively, both orally and in writing.
- Establish and maintain and promote positive and effective working relationships with employees, other agencies, public officials and the public.
- Demonstrate initiative and exercise good judgment in the performance of duties.
- Work independently and as a team member; recognize and set priorities and meet deadlines.
- Observe safety principles and work in a safe manner.

## **Willingness to:**

Wear protective clothing and use protective equipment.

Travel to sites within the City to conduct monitoring and sampling programs.

## **Licenses/Certificates:**

Possession and continued maintenance of a valid class C California driver's license and a safe driving record.

## **DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS**

- A Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university in chemistry, environmental science or a related field.

## **Application and Selection Process**

**The application period closes on Tuesday, January 20, 2026, at 5:00 pm or after receiving 100 qualified and complete applications, whichever is first.** If you are interested in this opportunity, please submit a City of Sunnyvale employment application and responses to the supplemental questions to the Department of Human Resources (postmarks or faxes are not accepted). Candidates are asked to fully describe any training, education, experience, or skills relevant to this position. Electronic applications may be submitted on-line through the City's employment page at [Sunnyvale.ca.gov](http://Sunnyvale.ca.gov) and click on JOBS. Late or incomplete applications will not be accepted.

## **EXAM PROCESS**

Applications will be competitively screened based on the minimum qualifications of this position. Based upon a review of the application materials, the most qualified candidates will be invited to participate in the examination process, which may consist of an **oral examination scheduled for Thursday, February 5, 2026** (Note: The examination process may be changed as deemed necessary by the Director of Human Resources).

## **SELECTION PROCESS**

Those candidates that receive a passing score on the examination will be placed on an eligibility list for up to one year, in accordance with the City's Civil Service Rules and Administrative Policies. **Top candidates on the eligibility list will be invited to participate in a selection interview with the department tentatively scheduled for the week of February 9, 2026.** Selection interviews will typically take place in-person, please plan accordingly.

Any candidate selected by the hiring department will be required to successfully complete a pre-employment process, which may consist of a comprehensive background investigation, as well as medical exam(s) administered by a City-selected physician(s) before hire. Prior to starting work, all newly-hired employees will be fingerprinted to check conviction history. A conviction history will not necessarily disqualify an applicant from appointment; however, failure to disclose conviction history will result in refusal of employment or termination.

## **INFORMATION ABOUT PROOF OF EDUCATION**

Any successful candidate selected by the hiring department will be required to submit proof of education (i.e., original copy of the diploma or college/university transcripts).

Any successful candidate selected by the hiring department will be required to submit proof of education (i.e., copy of the diploma or college/university transcripts). An applicant with a college degree obtained outside the United States

must have education records evaluated by a credential evaluation service at the candidate's expense. Candidates may utilize any third-party agency for the evaluation. If you search 'education equivalency verification' or similar online, you will obtain results for agencies that provide this evaluation service. A conditional job offer cannot be made until the education has been evaluated and submitted to the Department of Human Resources.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Summary of Sunnyvale's Employees Association (For Full Time Positions) [SEA Benefits](#)

[Notice of CFRA \(California Family Rights Act\) Rights and Obligations](#)

For assistance on how to fill out your job application, watch the following video:

- [How to Apply for a City of Sunnyvale Job](#) - YouTube (5:13)

The information contained within this announcement may be modified or revoked without notice and does not constitute either an expressed or implied contract.

The City of Sunnyvale is an equal opportunity employer. Applicants for all job openings will be considered without regard to age, race, color, religion, sex, national origin, sexual orientation, disability, veteran status, or any other consideration made unlawful under any federal, state, or local laws. The City of Sunnyvale is committed to offering reasonable accommodations to job applicants with disabilities. If you need assistance or an accommodation due to a disability, please contact us at (408) 730-7490 or [recruitments@sunnyvale.ca.gov](mailto:recruitments@sunnyvale.ca.gov).

**Employer**

City of Sunnyvale

**Address**

456 W. Olive Avenue  
  
Sunnyvale, California, 94086

**Phone**

408-730-7490

**Website**

<https://sunnyvale.ca.gov>

**Laboratory/Field Technician - Field Supplemental Questionnaire**

**\*QUESTION 1**

Instructions for completing the Supplemental Questionnaire: The following supplemental questions constitute an examination. Responses are reviewed and rated by Subject Matter Expert(s). The supplemental question examination determines the most qualified candidates to move forward in the recruitment process. The responses to the supplemental questions should be specific, thorough and must be reflected in the Work Experience, Education, and Certificates/Licenses sections of the application. Please note the information provided in the supplemental questions will not be accepted in lieu of the completed application. Incomplete responses, false statements, copying and pasting responses from Artificial Intelligence (AI) programs, and/or entering "See Resume" will result in an incomplete application and/or disqualification from the recruitment process. Please be advised that you will be 'timed out' of this page after 30 minutes. It is recommended to copy the supplemental questions that require text answers into a document that you can save on your computer. Prepare your responses in that document and then copy and paste the responses into the spaces provided. Additionally, please save your work continuously. By checking the 'Yes' response

below, I indicate that I have read the instructions for completing the application (located in the job posting) and supplemental questionnaire. In accordance with these instructions, I understand that a completed application and written responses to the supplemental questionnaire are required. I understand the completed application and supplemental question responses will be used to evaluate my qualifications for this position and further identify the most qualified candidates to continue in the recruitment process. Additionally, I certify that I have completed the application and supplemental questionnaire on my own; the information provided accurately reflects my training, education and experience; and I understand the information provided is subject to verification.

☐ Yes

☐ No

## **\*QUESTION 2**

Please select one of the following that best describes the combination of your education and experience.

☐ An Associate degree or 60 semester units or 90 quarter units from an accredited college or university in environmental science, including courses in chemistry, biology or other related science, AND two years of experience performing field technician duties.

☐ A Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university in environmental science, including courses in chemistry, biology or other related science AND one year of experience performing field technician duties.

☐ None of the above.

## **\*QUESTION 3**

Based on your response to question #2, please list the name of the accredited college or university, type of degree, and field of study. If you do not have this, enter N/A in the space below.

## **\*QUESTION 4**

Please describe your field experience, including any experience with the collection of various samples of industrial wastewater, wastewater treatment plant influent and effluent, recycled water, potable water, or storm water. Please include the years of experience, agency you worked for, your title, and your specific responsibilities.

## **\*QUESTION 5**

Describe your experience using field monitoring equipment. Include your experience with deploying, calibrating and maintaining field monitoring equipment such as pH meters and composite samplers or similar equipment.

## **\*QUESTION 6**

Describe your experience with data systems or tools to track, log, and manage sampling and/or laboratory activities.

## **\*QUESTION 7**

Do you have a valid class C California driver's license and a safe driving record?

☐ Yes

☐ No

**\* Required Question**