



Explore a Career as a **CHEMICAL PLANT OPERATOR**

What do Chemical Plant Operators do?

Chemical plant operators control or operate entire chemical processes or systems of machines. They may work in factories that produce paint, pesticides, refined oil, synthetic plastics, explosives, or other types of industrial chemical products. Their goal is to ensure that the production process runs safely and smoothly and that the plant produces quality results. They coordinate their efforts with technical and supervisory workers to get all plant workers on the same page. Chemical plant operators primarily monitor the equipment under their charge. They both control instruments and make sure they're working properly. They might also schedule and coordinate maintenance efforts if necessary.

Jobs in Manufacturing are in demand in Kankakee County!

Kankakee County employment in the manufacturing industry is expected to increase through 2020.

Training & Educational Opportunities

You will have plenty of employment opportunities as a chemical plant operator, but first you will have to complete specific training and earn a certificate or associate degree. By completing courses in chemistry, engineering, math, and science, you will learn the skills necessary to get a job as a chemical plant operator.

As a Chemical Plant Operator you will:

- Control or operate chemical processes or systems of machines using control panels
- Monitor recording instruments, flowmeters, panel lights, or other indicators
- Inspect operating units, such as towers, soap-spray storage tanks, scrubbers, collectors, or driers to ensure that all are functioning and to maintain maximum efficiency
- Move control settings to make necessary adjustments on equipment units affecting speeds of chemical reactions, quality, or yields

Chemical Plant Operator

Training Provider

The following certified training provider offers programs and certifications to train for a career as a chemical plant operator:

- Kankakee Community College

Career scholarships may be available if you qualify.



Types of Employers

There are many types of employers looking to hire chemical plant operators in Kankakee County, including:

- Agricultural chemical manufacturers
- Basic chemical manufacturers
- Petroleum and coal products manufacturers
- Pharmaceutical and medicine manufacturers
- Plastics product manufacturers
- Scientific research and development services

Wages & Openings

Chemical Plant Operator Employment Data for Kankakee County

Average Starting Hourly Wage	\$18.73
Average Hourly Wage With Experience	\$44.83
Average Annual Job Openings Kankakee County	~10
Average Annual Job Openings Chicago Metro	50

Opportunities

After you receive your certificate or degree as a chemical plant operator, there are many opportunities for advancement and specialization including:

- Chemical Operator Supervisor
- Chemical Production Manager
- Chemical Research Specialist
- Process Control Specialist



Kankakee Workforce Services

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