

Classification and Qualification



STANDARDS

The California State University System

Piano Technician Series

Class Title	Class Code	Date Established	Date Revised	Occupation Index Reference
Piano Technician I	6950	4-30-76	1-1-78	P-1
Piano Technician II	6951	4-30-76	1-1-78	P-1

INTRODUCTION:

The work performed by individuals in both these classes may involve some of the same tasks, but the appropriate level of a particular position in this series can be determined by factors such as variety of work, independence of work, specialized tuning ability required, and specialized knowledge of the construction of pianos and related instruments.

These classes typically have acquired the prerequisite skills and knowledges by having served an apprenticeship in an organization such as the Piano Technicians' Guild or through a formal on-the-job training program under the supervision of a qualified Piano Technician.

DEFINITION:

These classes involve the tuning, maintenance, repair, overhauling, and rebuilding of pianos, and the tuning and minor maintenance of harpsichords and related instruments.

CLASS CHARACTERISTICS:

Piano Technicians I tune pianos, repair or replace worn or broken parts and may assist a Piano Technician II in the overhauling and rebuilding of pianos. The primary distinction between these two classes is that, in addition, the Piano Technician II independently overhauls and rebuilds pianos and, when necessary, provides training and instruction to other technicians.

Piano Technicians II, because of their added training, knowledge, and experience, also may be given assignments which require more adeptness at tuning, voicing, and regulating an instrument to the exact tonal qualities and touch desired by individual pianists.

Examples of Typical Activities:

Tuning in this context includes tuning the instrument to the correct philharmonic pitch, and regulating the piano action and voicing the piano hammers either to exact specifications or to the exact tonal qualities and touch desired by individual pianists.

Maintenance and repair of pianos include inspection and diagnosis of problems and the adjustment, repair, or replacement of working or broken parts such as strings, key coverings, keys, felts, pedals, hammers, whippers, straps, flanges, bridges, stop rails, pedal boards, damper assemblies, lyre assemblies, fall boards, music racks, lids and legs.

Overhauling and rebuilding of pianos typically include such items as repairing of sound boards, and repairing or replacing of bridges, pinblocks and plates; restringing pianos with wire of the proper gauge; and rebuilding or adjusting damper assemblies, lyre assemblies, key frames and keys.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

Piano Technician I

Knowledges and Abilities:

Familiarity with the mechanical operation of pianos.

Ability to tune, regulate and voice a piano to exact specifications; ability to inspect and diagnose problems, and make minor repairs to pianos and related instruments; ability to read and write at a level appropriate to the duties of the position.

and

Experience:

Two years of experience in tuning and repairing pianos, harpsichords, and related instruments; or, completion of a formal training program which provides the individual with the knowledges and abilities required of the position.

Piano Technician II

Knowledges and Abilities:

In addition to those required at the Piano Technician I level, this class requires thorough knowledge of the principles of design, construction and mechanical operation of pianos; ability to tune, regulate and voice a piano to the exact tonal qualities and touch desired by various individual pianists; and ability to overhaul and rebuild pianos.

and

Experience:

Two years of experience in tuning and repairing pianos, harpsichords, and related instruments; as well as two years of experience in overhauling and rebuilding pianos.

Completion of a formal training program which provides the individual with the knowledges and abilities required of the position may be substituted for the two years of general tuning and repairing experience.

Work Week Group: 1
Premium O/T: Yes
Shift Differential: No
Employee Category: Non-Academic