

Power Plant Operators

51-8013.00



Description: Control, operate, or maintain machinery to generate electric power. Includes auxiliary equipment operators.

Other Resources:

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Sample of Reported Job Titles: Auxiliary Operator, Control Operator, Control Room Operator

Job Zone

Title: 2 - Some Preparation Needed

Education: Usually require a high school diploma.

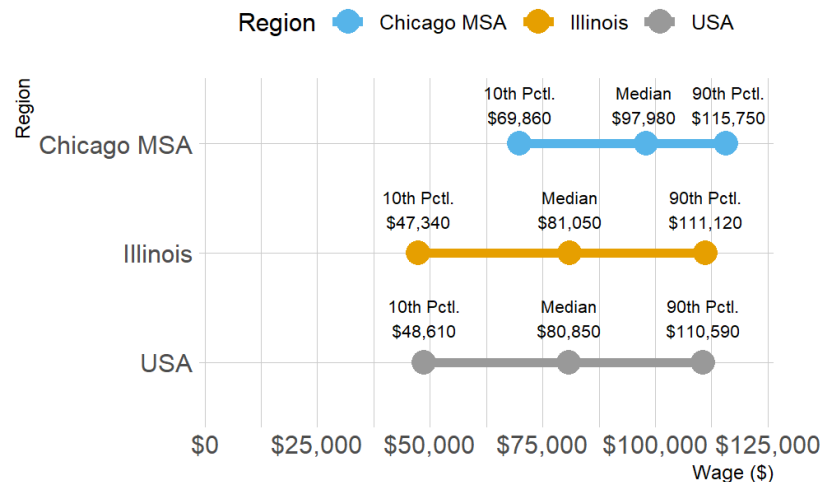
Experience: Some previous work-related skill, knowledge, or experience is needed.

Training: A few months to one year of working with experienced employees needed. A recognized apprenticeship program may be associated with these occupations.

Core Certifications: Public Power Manager, Energy Efficiency Management Certificate Program, Public Power Customer Service Manager

Hot Technologies: Microsoft Access, Microsoft Office Suite, Supervisory control and data acquisition SCADA software

Region	Employment	Location Quotient	Median Wage
Chicago MSA	620	0.71	\$97,980
Illinois	680	0.59	\$81,050
USA	28,960	—	\$80,850



Top 5 Core Tasks According to Current Job Holders	Frequency	Importance (out of 100)
Adjust controls to generate specified electrical power or to regulate the flow of power between generating stations and substations.	Hourly or more	95
Monitor power plant equipment and indicators to detect evidence of operating problems.	Hourly or more	94
Control power generating equipment, including boilers, turbines, generators, or reactors, using control boards or semi-automatic equipment.	Hourly or more	91
Control or maintain auxiliary equipment, such as pumps, fans, compressors, condensers, feedwater heaters, filters, or chlorinators, to supply water, fuel, lubricants, air, or auxiliary power.	Hourly or more	91
Control generator output to match the phase, frequency, or voltage of electricity supplied to panels.	Hourly or more	91