

URBAN FORESTER - GOVERNMENT

JOB DESCRIPTION

Individuals serving as an urban forester for a governmental agency will administer grant applications and programs, oversee industry promotional programs like TREE CITY USA, and serve as an information source/resource to the public, municipal arborists, and other tree professionals.

TYPICAL BACKGROUND

Backgrounds vary but may include experience in other governmental agencies, city foresters, university experiences, and commercial enterprises. All include some aspect of tree care experience and significant communication skills.



ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

A four-year degree in forestry or a related field will be required. Strong interpersonal communication skills will be highly beneficial. Experience with computers and presentation skills are desirable.

EDUCATION/TRAINING NEEDS

- Governmental procedures and policies
- Scientific technologies of the industry
- Computer skills (word processing, Power Point, spread sheets)
- Good communication skills – verbal and written
- Understanding of OSHA rules and other pertinent laws
- Grant preparation skills
- Program and project management
- Pruning principals and techniques
- Knowledge of personnel rules and management
- Ability to read and understand plan drawings
- Tree identification and biology
- Insect and disease diagnosis and treatment requirements
- Proper tree selection and planting procedures

EDUCATION TRAINING MATERIALS

- *ISA Evaluation of Hazard Trees in Urban Areas*
- *ISA: Arborists' Certification Study Guide*
- *Best Management Practice: Pruning*
- *Best Management Practice: Tree Support Systems*
- *ISA: Plant Health Care for Woody Ornamentals*
- *ISA: Guide to Report Writing*
- *ISA: Guide to Plant Appraisal*
- *ISA: Arboriculture and the Law*
- *ISA: Trees and Development*
- *Urban Forestry: Planning and Managing Urban Greenspaces*
- *Urban Soils: Applications and Practices*

CERTIFICATIONS/LICENSES

ISA Arborist Certification and State Pesticide License may be required

TYPICAL FUTURE CAREER PATHS

Individuals may move to other governmental roles within their own agency or other units such as city foresters. Some may choose to take roles in private industry or within the utility industry.