



By Richard Stup
Penn State Dairy Alliance

Clarity Farms
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Sample Job Description

Position Title Parlor Operator

Summary The Parlor Operator prepares the milking equipment and bulk tank, milks cows, and cleans equipment and facilities. He/she is responsible for basic maintenance of parlor equipment and some record keeping. Follow-up animal care as prescribed by the Herdperson is also required.

Qualifications

- Stand and walk for up to 6 hours
- Lift up to 50 lbs
- Accurately follow directions
- Gently and patiently handle cows

Duties

- Prepare milking equipment (see Parlor SOP #2-08/99)
- Prep and milk cows (see Parlor SOP #1-11/00)
- Clean and sanitize milking equipment (see Parlor SOP #3-05/96)
- Clean milking parlor and milkhouse (see Parlor SOP #7-05/96)
- Change milker inflations (see Parlor SOP #4-08/99)
- Detect mastitis or abnormal milk
- Perform follow-up treatment as directed by herdperson
- Other duties as directed

Relationships Supervised by the Parlor Manager. Works closely and maintains communications with Parlor Manager, other Parlor Operators, and the Herdperson.

Hours Full time Parlor Operators work 45 to 55 hours per week. Milking shifts typically last 6 hours. The Parlor Manager maintains the milker schedule.

Compensation Parlor operators start at \$6.50 per hour for a probationary/training period of 60 calendar days. After the 60-day probationary/training period, qualified Parlor Operators base pay increases to \$7.50 per hour and health care coverage is extended to the employee and dependents. The Parlor Manager will determine if a milker is qualified based on established work quality and efficiency standards found in the incentive program. Qualified Parlor Operators who receive cross training to become qualified to work in other parts of the business are eligible for pay increases.