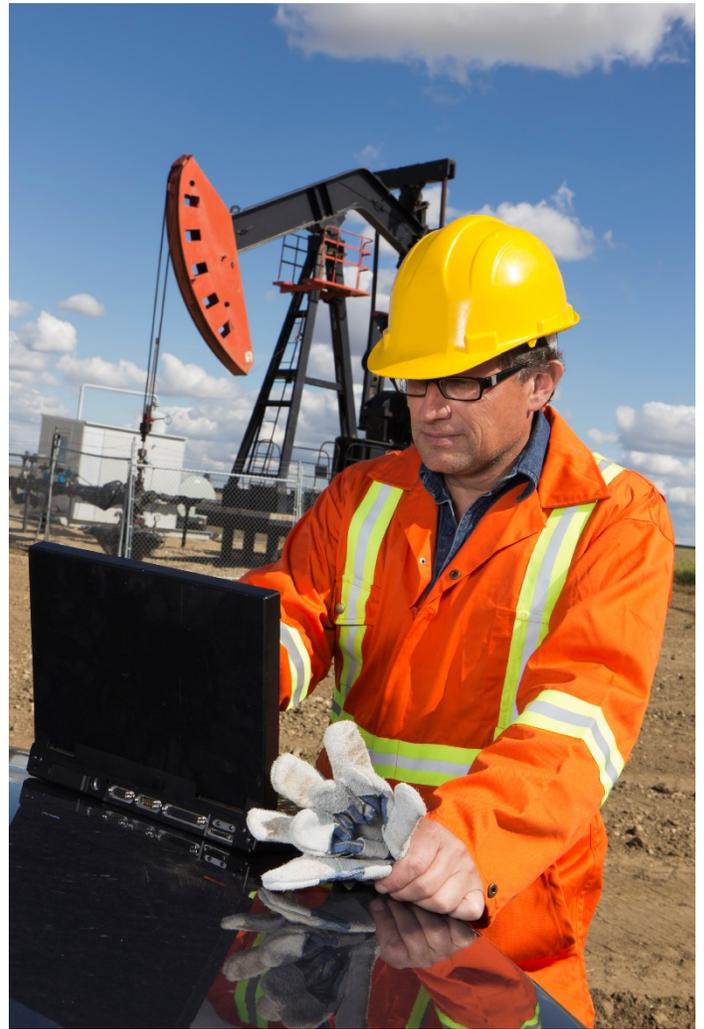


PETROLEUM PRODUCTION TECHNICIAN

Job Description: This position assists and provides technical assistance on oil and gas production related issues. The production technician implements production operational standards and coordinates data acquisition for the Production Engineer, Operations Manager, and Superintendent. He or she frequently travels to well locations and performs onsite supervision and monitoring and testing, and makes changes or adjustments to equipment. The technician also works closely with field operations personnel to coordinate needed changes; and communicates clearly with contract personnel during modification and/or adjustment of equipment. Job tasks also include:

- Supporting field personnel in managing the production data
- Compiling and forecasting production expense data
- Generating production graphs and analyzing production trends utilizing computer applications
- Participating in incident reviews and job safety analyses
- Helping to coordinate spill reporting and remediation
- Developing and adjusting procedures, policies, and operational guidelines



Needed Skills and Education: A person seeking this occupation should possess excellent oral and written communication, teamwork, and planning and organizational skills. He or she should have the ability to identify problems, generate novel approaches, and implement solutions. Computer proficiency is a must. Entry-level positions require a high school or GED diploma along with previous experience in related positions. An associate or bachelor degree in a related field is preferred, along with employment experience in oil and gas production. Community colleges and vocational-technical schools provide professional development courses, certificate programs, and associate degrees in Petroleum Production Technology. These provide students with a broad background to operate and maintain the equipment used in the oil extraction and services industry.

Wages: Specific information on average annual wages and average hourly wages in North Dakota is not available for this position. According to the Bureau of Labor Standards, the 2012 median pay for petroleum technicians nationally was \$52,700 per year.

Other Information: The high price of oil and strong demand for natural gas is expected to result in increased oil and gas extraction and production. The employment outlook for petroleum production technicians is projected to increase at a faster rate than the average for all occupations.

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