

San Diego Community College District

CLASSIFICATION DESCRIPTION

Title: Senior Systems Administrator

Unit: Supervisory & Professional

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Job Code: D1838

Original Date: 11/2025

Last Revision: 11/2025

Staff Type: Classified

FLSA status: Exempt

Salary Range: 8

DEFINITION

Under the direction of the Manager, Technical Services, or assigned manager, install and maintain server operating systems (such as UNIX, AIX, LINUX and ERP Admin tools) and perform senior level network administration activities; monitor systems; maintain security; resolve hardware and software problems; design and write code; work with vendors; provide technical advice, training and project management activities.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS

The Senior Systems Administrator is responsible for the technical design, planning, implementation, and the highest level of performance tuning and recovery procedures for mission critical enterprise servers and systems and for serving as a technical expert in the area of systems administration for complex operating systems. The Senior Systems Administrator position works with System Administrators, Programmers, Database Administrators, IT management and external vendors and consultants to complete assigned duties.

EXAMPLE OF DUTIES

1. Perform system administration activities; coordinate and manage the installation and configuration of host servers; ensure network connectivity and security; install and test application and operating system upgrades.
2. Provide up to the highest-level technical support and problem resolution related to networks, servers, desktop connectivity, database management software, operating systems, and ERP application software.
3. Implement system and user security; administer access to systems and data using approved Information Technology security policies, procedures, and standards; maintain and monitor database stability.
4. Design, test, and implement system and database backup and recovery procedures; maintain tape and other offline data libraries; develop system documentation and configurations.
5. Participate in computer audits and perform testing for disaster recovery processes, ensuring a secure processing environment that protects the integrity and availability of information.
6. Monitor and tune system software and third party software products; test software systems to insure proper functioning; provide statistical reporting; coordinate with development staff to solve operating problems.
7. Maintain and document operating systems and related software; monitor the effects of users and transactions on system and database performance; adjust performance.
8. Install security patches and respond to security incidents. Maintain security systems; control the issue of passwords; create, manage, and delete user profiles.
9. Design, install, and test connections among computer systems with different operating systems and applications software.
10. Configure systems to intercommunicate; run programs to test connections; establish connections with computers in other departments and external agencies.
11. Recommend acquisition of software and hardware; assist in the selection, evaluation, and testing of new computer hardware and software.
12. Perform related duties as assigned.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS**Knowledge:**

- Computer backup and restore procedures under UNIX, AIX, or LINUX.
- Computer programming languages, such as C, Java, SQL, and specific control languages.
- Oral and written communication skills
- Technical presentation skills
- District organization, operations, policies, and objectives.
- English syntax and language mechanics.
- Performance management and capacity planning.
- Principles and practices of data processing using client, server, and cloud facilities.
- Principles and practices of system design, development, implementation, and user support.
- Principles and practices of work direction, supervision, and training.
- Record-keeping techniques.
- TCP/IP and networking.
- Technical aspects of field of specialty.
- Vendor's management and external consultants
- Technical project management

Skills and Abilities:

- Analyze problems and take corrective action in a professional manner.
- Communicate effectively both orally and in writing.
- Coordinate functions and activities between the Information Technology Department and end-user departments.
- Develop standards for the operation of system hardware and software.
- Establish and maintain effective working relationships with IT management.
- Maintain records and prepare reports.
- Plan and organize work.
- Work independently and set priorities.
- Take on the role and responsibility of a technical project management
- Provide technical presentations to executive management

Training and Experience:

Any combination of training and experience equivalent to: a Bachelor's degree in computer science, engineering, or related field and four years of data processing experience, including three years in UNIX, AIX, or LINUX systems administration or three years in database administration in a UNIX environment.

WORKING CONDITIONS**Physical Requirements:**

Category III. Physical skill is required for keyboarding, mouse operation, and use of peripheral equipment.

Environment:

Work environment includes typical computer related noise levels and paper printing equipment. Exposure to computer monitors occurs on a regular basis.