

# HOW TO BECOME A POOL PLANT OPERATOR

Your Complete  
Career Guide



**CIMSPA**  
Endorsed

Professional  
Standards

# A FLEXIBLE, SKILLED AND REWARDING CAREER THAT IS ESSENTIAL TO SAFE SWIMMING POOL OPERATIONS

Becoming a pool plant operator is a fantastic career path for those looking for a progression route into leisure management and to be responsible for the technical operation and maintenance of a swimming pool and plant.

Training reflects the most up-to-date requirements and standards for pool plant operations, with a syllabus which covers all aspects that are vital to running a wet leisure facility and maintaining healthy and hygienic water. This includes water testing, disinfection, pool water chemistry, dosing, mechanical operations, heating, energy efficiency, management practices, health & safety and more!

Working hours can fit around your lifestyle with options of full-time, part-time, and casual hours, as well as morning, daytime, evening, and weekend shifts.

Many roles require qualified pool plant operators from Relief Duty Managers, Duty Managers, Facility Managers, Caretakers, Maintenance Teams, Pool Plant Engineers and Technicians. Countless employment opportunities are available with a range of pool, spa and interactive water feature providers, on the search for qualified and motivated pool plant operators.

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# NEW TO WATER TESTING OR POOL PLANT OPERATIONS

Safe, clear and hygienic water in swimming pools, spas and interactive water features is what all pool plant operators should strive for. STA's pool plant qualifications provide learners with the training they need to ensure the safety of all users of wet leisure facilities, whilst also complying with the health, safety and legal requirements of being a qualified operator.

STA has three professional qualifications available to suit the needs of those involved in varying degrees of pool plant work – from routine water testing to the full management and operation of a pool plant facility.

**STA LEVEL 2 AWARD IN POOL WATER TESTING** - Perfect for those responsible for carrying out routine pool water tests. Many lifeguards for example must test pool water as part of their job role, and this qualification gives learners the basic information and skills necessary to competently test swimming pool and spa water, whilst providing a basic understanding of the outcomes of those tests.

**STA LEVEL 2 AWARD IN POOL WATER TREATMENT** - Ideal for those who complete routine water testing and need to have general knowledge of swimming pool water treatment. It's also the perfect stepping stone for those considering a career in pool maintenance and management, before they embark on our full Pool Plant Operations course.

**STA LEVEL 3 AWARD IN POOL PLANT OPERATIONS** - Reflects the most up-to-date requirements and standards for pool plant operations, with a robust syllabus which covers all aspects that are vital to running a wet leisure facility and maintaining healthy and hygienic water. This includes water testing, disinfection, pool water chemistry, dosing, mechanical operations, heating, energy efficiency, management practices, health & safety and more!

This qualification also meets CIMSPA's employer-led pool plant operative professional standard.



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# TRAVEL WITH YOUR CAREER



**As STA's qualifications are recognised internationally, you also have the option to travel with your career, opening up endless opportunities so you can explore and work at the same time.**

## **Demi Tripicchio**

**“** *Not only did I gain knowledge on plant rooms, water testing and treatment, I also became more confident and progressed with my career; I would highly recommend STA's Level 3 Award in Pool Plant Operations to anyone, as it opens up many new opportunities.*

*Not only do I understand how a pool plant room runs, I understand the health and safety risks involved and had great support from the course tutor. I feel proud knowing I'm responsible for the public's health and wellbeing and running the plant room competently.* **” 4**

# EARNING POTENTIAL

Pool plant operations is a requirement for a number of job roles, so earning potential varies depending on the job, age, geographical location, skills, and experience.

Pool Plant Operators can progress into more senior leisure or operations management positions, facility operations, tutoring, or even use as a stepping-stone into pool plant engineering.

It is a fantastic profession to work in and its one that could open could open numerous doors depending on individual career aspirations.



# STEP ONE

## ARE YOU SUITABLE?

DO YOU HAVE THE SKILLS AND ATTRIBUTES TO MAKE A GOOD POOL PLANT OPERATOR?

- ✓ RESPONSIBLE
- ✓ OWN INITIATIVE
- ✓ WORK UNSUPERVISED
- ✓ ORGANISED
- ✓ PRACTICAL
- ✓ ATTENTION TO DETAIL
- ✓ SAFE
- ✓ POSITIVE ATTITUDE
- ✓ OBSERVANT
- ✓ PROFESSIONAL MANNER
- ✓ GOOD COMMUNICATOR
- ✓ TEAM PLAYER
- ✓ ABLE TO STAY CALM
- ✓ PROBLEM SOLVER
- ✓ RELIABLE

### ROLES OF A POOL PLANT OPERATOR INCLUDE:

- Water testing
- Record keeping
- Reacting appropriately to test results and other incidents
- Routine and non-routine maintenance tasks
- Chemical safety
- Health and safety
- Problem solver.

*POOL PLANT OPERATORS ARE OFTEN THE UNSUNG HEROES, WORKING BEHIND THE SCENES TO ENSURE SAFE, CLEAR AND HYGIENIC WATER FOR THE SAFETY, PLEASURE AND ENJOYMENT OF POOL USERS.*



# STEP TWO

## FIND AN STA AWARD IN POOL PLANT OPERATIONS COURSE

**Your next step is to enrol on to an Award in Pool Plant Operations course which has been developed by Safety Training Awards (STA) - an awarding organisation whose qualifications are endorsed by CIMSPA (Chartered Institute for the Management of Sport and Physical Activity).**

**STA's comprehensive range of professionally regulated qualifications will give you the knowledge and skills required to become a successful pool plant operator.**

**With Approved Training Centres (ATCs) delivering courses nationwide, you will be sure to find a course close to you by using STA's course search engine.**

**CLICK HERE**

# STEP THREE

## FIND EMPLOYMENT

After you have qualified, you can apply for a pool plant operator role.

Jobs in Leisure, which has been created by STA, will connect you with the latest job vacancies across the country and internationally.

**jobsinleisure.org**

# STEP FOUR

## MAINTAIN YOUR SKILLS

As a qualified pool plant operator, you will need to maintain occupational competency. This can be achieved by regular ongoing training, attending CPD's, general practice in pool plant operations to maintain knowledge and gain experience. Other factors, such as your attitude and physical ability, can also affect your competence and capability to perform a task safely.

Employers must provide information, training and instruction for those working with substances hazardous to health. This is in addition to a full induction process, site specific and ongoing training.

You will also need to re-validate your Pool Plant Operations qualification every 5 years to remain qualified.

WHETHER YOU ARE NEW TO LEISURE OR ARE LOOKING TO EXTEND YOUR SKILLS AND KNOWLEDGE, STA HAS MANY QUALIFICATIONS AND CPD'S ON OFFER.



### STA Award in Teaching Swimming

The first step in your swimming teaching career, teaching essential swimming skills, water safety and all four key strokes to participants.



### Pool Lifeguarding

Designed to train learners in all aspects of pool rescue, CPR techniques, first aid, dealing with poolside emergencies, and all other skills needed for the role of a modern lifeguard.



### Open Water Swimming Coaching

For those who love open water and want to promote and share their passion by coaching swimmers in an open water environment.



# CREATING YOUR CV

**Your CV is the first point of contact between you and an employer. Precise content, a clear structure and a clean design will help you make an impact.**

- Keep your CV to a maximum of 2 pages**
- Stick to one clear font such as Times New Roman**
- Always use subheadings for different sections e.g. Personal Statement, Work Experience, Education, Key Skills, Interests and References**
- Research the company you are applying for and adapt your CV accordingly.**



# ONCE YOU'RE A MEMBER OF STA, THE SUPPORT CONTINUES

Whether you're just starting out or have worked in the industry for years, you can gain recognition as a current and actively engaged professional with STA, a governing body within swimming and lifesaving.

The STA membership cover is there to provide cover for a paid-up member acting in an individual capacity and carrying out activities within your current STA qualification or a qualification recognised by the STA, including pool plant operations.

## YOU WILL RECEIVE:

- ✓ Public Liability Insurance (up to £10 million)
- ✓ Professional Indemnity Insurance (up to £1 million provided by Allianz)
- ✓ Access exclusive resources.

**PLUS ACCESS EXCLUSIVE BENEFITS FROM THE FOLLOWING PARTNER ORGANISATIONS:**

Have any questions?  
Contact us via [info@sta.co.uk](mailto:info@sta.co.uk)

