WHAT ARE YOU UP FOR?

MY LIFE AS



AN INSTRUMENT TECHNICIAN: KRYSTAL GARCIA

Krystal Garcia was looking for a career that offered more challenge, more success, and more financial freedom. She found what she was looking for in the petrochemical manufacturing industry, at INEOS. Her current career pays better than her former senior paralegal position and offers more flexible hours, the opportunity for growth with hard work and dedication, and the excitement of not knowing what to expect each day.

Houston produces more than 40 percent of the nation's petrochemicals. The industry is expected to grow 30 percent by 2028, creating nearly 24,000 annual skilled openings over the next eight years.

"Probably one of the biggest satisfactions of working in this industry is that you're part of something that's going out there into the world and making it better," Krystal said.

REQUIREMENTS:

Associate degree in applied sciences or industrial instrumentation or equivalent apprenticeship; instrumentation technician certification preferred

SALARY:

\$60,000 - \$80,000

CAREER PATH:

Associate degree, senior paralegal, instrumentation certification, instrument tech apprenticeship

ADVANCEMENT:

First-line supervisor; maintenance supervisor; engineering, projects, plant supervisor

TIPS FOR SUCCESS:

Love of working with technology. Good interpersonal skills and ability to work well as part of a team. "As long as you get out there, you work hard, you show everyone that you can work hard, and you're diligent, you'll be successful," Krystal said.

KEY CAREER RESPONSIBILITIES:

Install, test, calibrate, and maintain equipment used in industrial and manufacturing facilities. Measure and control pressure, flow, temperature, level, force, and chemical makeup of products moving through manufacturing equipment. Adjust, repair, and maintain system components or replace defective parts. Work with operations and engineering to ensure all the flow through the plant is following design. Perform risk assessments. Consult manufacturers' manuals to determine test and maintenance responsibilities. Use testing devices to inspect instruments and diagnose problems. Install and maintain instruments on plant equipment.

