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Biological Science Technician 06

GS-0404-06

NOTE: THE SENTENCE IN PART I DESCRIBING THE PURPOSE OF THE POSITION AND PARTS II AND III IN THEIR ENTIRETY ARE PERMANENT PARTS OF THE LIBRARY AND MAY NOT BE CHANGED OR EDITED IN ANY WAY.

I. INTRODUCTION

This position is located in

This position assists investigators and other technicians with various laboratory procedures and techniques.

II. MAJOR DUTIES AND RESOPNSIBILITIES

Prepares and analyzes samples utilizing standard and state-of-the-art techniques. Operates and maintains a variety of complex instruments. Organizes collections and maintains detailed records of experiments, observations, measurements and results. Calculates and tabulates data to determine significant trends and correlations. Prepares data in acceptable form for computer processing. Assists in planning work schedules, and may write reports. Prepares graphs and tables. Assists supervisor in editing and proofreading proposals, reports and manuscripts.

III. FACTOR LEVELS

Factor 1 - Knowledge Required by the Position. FL 1-4, 550 pts

Knowledge of common research techniques and practices. Knowledge of biological science to make observations, analyze results and maintain accurate records. Skill in preparing samples, mixing reagents, making measurements, recording and analyzing data, and use and maintenance of analytical instruments. Ability to work rapidly and accurately in performing analyses. Knowledge of computer equipment to enter, manipulate and retrieve data.

Factor 2 - Supervisory Controls. FL 2-3, 275 pts

Routine assignments are made in terms of objectives, priorities and deadlines. Incumbent generally carries out assignments independently, but may work in conjunction with other technicians or scientists. Incumbent must assure projects are completed within established time limits. Work is reviewed to assure that agency policies have been followed, deadlines met and that problems were properly solved.

Factor 3 - Guidelines. FL 3-2, 125 pts

Procedures and instructions have been established; however, incumbent may have to adapt or adjust guidelines to meet a particular assignment. Incumbent uses judgment in selecting appropriate guidance for a project.

Factor 4 - Complexity. FL 4-2, 75 pts

Performs a wide variety of procedures and steps involving sample collection, preparation and analysis. Judgment is required in selecting methods appropriate for a particular experimental condition to gain the desired results. Incumbent must maintain accurate records of tests and/or results and observes, recognizes and records variants in procedures. Incumbent draws tentative conclusions and makes suggestions for improvement in methodology.

Factor 5 - Scope and Effect. FL 5-2, 75 pts

The work involves performing a variety of procedures ranging from simple to moderately complex in the collection and processing of samples. The work affects the accuracy, reliability and acceptability of the research being conducted and resulting publications and manuscripts.

Factor 6 - Personal Contacts. FL 2

Contacts are with other technical employees, scientists and coworkers, representatives of other government or research organizations, and the general public.

Factor 7 - Purpose of Contacts. FL b, 75 pts

Contacts are necessary to obtain, clarify and exchange information related to the work, to assist in planning and coordinating work efforts and resolve problems.

Factor 8 - Physical Demands. FL 8-2, 20 pts

The work requires some physical exertion for long periods of time such as standing, walking, stooping, bending, lifting light objects, climbing, etc. Some work may be performed on slippery, uneven and unsteady surfaces.

Factor 9 - Work Environment. FL 9-2, 20 pts

The work environment varies from laboratory settings to field sites. The work involves moderate risks, discomforts and unpleasantness such as a high level of noise, chemicals, deep freezers, etc.

1215 pts = GS-6

This position is non-exempt from coverage under the Fair Labor Standards Act.

IV. UNIQUE POSITION REQUIREMENTS

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