U.S. DEPARTMENT of COMMERCE Office of the Secretary



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# Biological Science Technician 07

Office of Human Resources Management

# GS-0404-07

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 supports the research of one or more investigators by managing the day-to-day technical aspects related to the study.

## **II. MAJOR DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

Arranges for and lays out study sites. Develops data required for the study by collecting and checking samples obtained by self or others and prepares data for processing. Organizes collections, and records and verifies data. Researches background material. Maintains a variety of equipment.

Prepares reports summarizing data processed, prepares charts and graphs, and cross references facts, dates and other data.

Assists supervisor in editing and proofreading proposals, reports and manuscripts.

#### **III. FACTOR LEVELS**

Factor 1 - Knowledge Required by the Position. FL 1-5, 750 pts

Knowledge of the basic theories and practices of biological science sufficient to analyze findings and make recommendations for changes. Knowledge of the technical processes, procedures and techniques related to biological science samples, measurements and analysis, and ability to modify or adapt procedures to improve efficiency of the study. Knowledge of computer functions related to data input, retrieval and routine analysis of data.

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

Supervisor provides information on the objectives of the study and any unusual procedures for accomplishment. The incumbent keeps the supervisor informed of progress and advises when problems develop during the course of the work which might affect results. Completed work is reviewed by the supervisor for adequacy of results.

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

Procedures and instructions are available for most of the work. Supervisor provides guidance on unusually complex aspects of the study, or new procedures to be followed. Employee uses judgment in applying or adapting guidelines to meet current situation.

Factor 4 - Complexity. FL 4-3, 150 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 conslusions and makes suggestions for improvement in methodology.

Factor 5 - Scope and Effect. FL 5-3, 150 pts

The work involves applying both standard and unique, state-of-the-art practices and techniques to complete biological studies. The results of the work directly affect the accuracy, reliability and acceptability of the research being conducted. The incumbent's work may also affect the future planning within and outside the tDivision.

Factor 6 - Personal Contacts. 2

Contacts are with technical and professional employees within the Division and with peers in other Federal, state and local agencies and universities, 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 high level of noise, chemicals, deep freezers, etc.

1565 pts = GS-7

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

#### **IV. UNIQUE POSITION REQUIREMENTS**

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