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Biological Science Technician 08

GS-0404-08

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 is responsible for the organization and management of the technical aspects of a major scientific study.

II. MAJOR DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Organizes and processes samples. Decides upon types of scientific equipment to be utilized. Assists research investigator and utilizes knowledges of various tests and techniques to provide data required. Responsible for the preparation of specimens and samples in the laboratory analysis. May use computer graphics to prepare scientific illustrations for use in manuscripts.

Performs the administrative work associated with the study and works with computer programmers to assure necessary automated support for the project. Maintains the automated data base and various logs.

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 to be accomplished. The incumbent keeps the supervisor informed of the progress of the work and advises on problems which might affect the results. Completed work is reviewed by the supervisor for adequacy of results.

Factor 3 - Guidelines. FL 3-3, 275 pts

Guidelines for handling, processing and storing of statistical and biological data collected may be available, but not directly related to the work. Incumbent adapts related guides to meet current needs. Incumbent recommends changes in procedures and techniques to improve the efficiency and economy of the study.

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 conclusions 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 a biological study of significance. 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 Division.

Factor 6 - Personal Contacts. FL 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.

1715 pts = GS-8

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

IV. UNIQUE POSITION REQUIREMENTS

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