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Economist 14

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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 responsible for conducting complex economic research, developing analytical techniques for economic studies and conducting special analyses of major economic issues, writing, editing, planning, and coordinating major reports.

II. MAJOR DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Manages the formulation, programming and guidance of projects or continuing programs involving economic issues of great importance and significance. Identifies particular problems to explore; assesses the adequacy of existing programs; and recommends and implements changes. Participates in or leads interagency work groups. May respond to inquiries from the general public and high level officials from other agencies.

Conducts policy oriented research in development of innovative approaches to existing and new problems in an economic field. Develops and presents for review new ideas for analysis and presentation of economic data.

III. FACTOR LEVELS

Factor 1 - Knowledge Required by the Position FL 1-8, 1550 points

Knowledge of a subject matter area in economics sufficient to provide expert economic analysis of pertinent issues.

Knowledge of economic theory and methodologies to develop new approaches to research methodology.

Knowledge of statistical procedures, econometrics, and computer methods in order to develop creative solutions to analytical problems.

Skill in complex data analysis and report writing to present findings.

Ability to make presentations of controversial findings to a wide range of audiences.

Factor 2 - Supervisory Controls FL 2-5, 650 points

The supervisor provides administrative direction, making assignments in terms of broadly defined missions or functions. Incumbent is completely responsible for formulating and carrying through research plans and for the technical interpretation and application of findings as well as preparing budget recommendations to support these findings as necessary. Recommendations for new projects and alteration of objectives usually are evaluated for such considerations as availability of funds and other resources, broad program goals, or national priorities.

Factor 3 - Guidelines FL 3-5, 650 points

Guidelines consist of broadly stated agency policies. Frequently guidelines are based upon legislation that requires extensive interpretation. The economist must use judgment and ingenuity in interpreting the intent of

the guides that do exist and in developing applications to specific areas of work. Frequently, the economist is recognized as a technical authority in the development and interpretation of guidelines.

Factor 4 - Complexity FL 4-5, 325 points

The incumbent is almost entirely dependent on his/her own knowledge and imagination in the assessment and understanding of problems of critical importance in the area of specialization. The solution to such problems frequently requires originality and creativity in the development of plans; design of experiments; invention of methods; or, the extension of existing theory to new and unusual applications. Decisions regarding what needs to be done include major areas of uncertainty in approach, methodology, or interpretation and evaluation processes that result from such elements as continuing changes in the program, or conflicting requirements.

Factor 5 - Scope and Effect FL 5-5, 325 points

The purpose of the work is to conduct studies and manage programs of key importance to the agency. The work affects the development or improvement of major programs of the agency.

Factor 6 - Personal Contacts FL 6-3, 60 points

Contacts include high-ranking officials from within and outside the agency in moderately unstructured settings. Typical contacts include technical representatives from other organizations, representatives of professional organizations, the news media, or public action groups.

Factor 7 - Purpose of Contacts FL 7-4, 220 points

The purpose of the contacts is to justify, defend, negotiate, or settle matters involving significant or controversial issues. The work involves participation in conferences, meetings, hearings, or presentations involving economic problems or issues of considerable consequence or importance.

Factor 8 - Physical Demands FL 8-1, 5 points

The work is sedentary.

Factor 9 - Work Environment FL 9-1, 5 points

The work is performed in an office setting.

TOTAL = 3790 POINTS

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

IV. UNIQUE POSITION REQUIREMENTS

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