



U.S. DEPARTMENT of COMMERCE
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Geodesist 13

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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 serves as a geodesist, involved in conducting expert-level analyses for geodetic programs, projects, operations, and related activities.

II. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

As a Senior Geodesist, employee provides technical expertise and authoritative advice on specialty areas within the agency and to other Federal agencies in all areas of geodetic projects, operations, and studies. Recommends changes in procedures to improve quality of methods, techniques, and products. Develops, revises, and writes technical portions of agency guidelines that may affect other agencies and/or industries.

Provides data and recommendations on policy and management decisions for changes in procedures, organization, and resource allocation.

Designs, plans, manages, and coordinates geodetic programs. Translates broad goals and objectives into specifications and procedures. Consults with project planners to evaluate proposals for geodetic surveys or related products to determine geodetic requirements, and to resolve difficult differences in geodetic requirements.

Evaluates technological advancements in the applications of space geodesy systems, such as Doppler, GPS, VLBI, and satellite laser ranging, to higher accuracy geodetic requirements such as crustal dynamics and geoid modeling.

Conducts research on the most difficult or most complex situations including where litigation is involved or where inquiries require complex and detailed replies.

Develops and improves computer software programs required for data compilation needs, quality control analyses, and entry and validation for data base and archival requirements; analyzes needs for refinements and automation in the processing and reduction software for space geodesy survey data and monitors the design of systems to meet identified needs; and prepares documentation and user guidelines.

Maintains contact with Federal, state, and local users of geodetic data and analyzes potential requirements relative to the use of NOAA products to assure that the needs of users are as fully met as practicable. As required, schedules meetings, workshops, and briefings with user surveying, mapping and scientific organizations to educate and advise users. In addition, the incumbent investigates, develops, and recommends methods of meeting specific requirements of the users.

Prepares technical correspondence and reports; authors or co-authors scientific papers for publication or for presentation at technical meetings.

III. FACTORS

1 - Knowledge Required. Employee must be an expert in the theories, principles, and practices of theoretical geodesy and have the ability to apply this knowledge to the solution of major problems which are constantly

arising as satellite technology progresses and geodetic practices enter new and more complex areas.

Knowledge of geodesy sufficient to serve as a technical authority, applying new developments in the field and experienced judgment to solve novel or obscure problems.

Knowledge to extend and modify existing techniques and develop new approaches for the analysis of recurring geodetic problems, or equivalent skill and knowledge.

Knowledge of geodetic field and processing operations sufficient to plan operations and provide other support required to accomplish geodetic survey projects and perform technology transfer functions.

Knowledge of techniques to solve problems; make significant departures from previous approaches to accommodate specialized assignments; and provide staff advisory, planning, and reviewing services.

Knowledge of computers including using and/or programming FORTRAN and/or C programs, data base management concepts, personal computers, and remote computer terminals.

2 - Supervisory Controls. Supervisor sets overall objectives and resources. Employee and supervisor consult on priorities and deadlines. Employee plans work, resolves technical problems, coordinates with others, and determines approach and methods, keeping supervisor informed of matters that may be controversial or have far-reaching implications. Decisions, recommendations, completed work, and findings are accepted as technically authoritative and reviewed only for meeting overall objectives.

3 - Guidelines. Guidelines are broad and consist of broadly stated agency policies, regulations, laws, and scientific literature. Judgment is used to determine areas for development and study, and ingenuity is used to devise projects to thoroughly investigate these areas. As technical authority, develops and interprets agency guidelines and uses considerable judgment to determine need for revisions.

4 - Complexity. Assignments include broad range of activities involving complex, obscure, or novel aspects such as technological developments and new products. Work requires being especially versatile and innovative in adapting, modifying, or making compromises with standard guides and methods to originate new techniques or criteria. Assignments typically involve difficult-to-resolve conflicts between geodetic and management requirements. Additional complexity arises from the requirement to coordinate the activities of other Federal, state and local agencies, universities, and the private sector.

5 - Scope and Effect. Resolves complex, critical problems or develops new approaches or methods for use by operating personnel. As consultant or program coordinator for specialty area, provides expert advice to geodesists and other officials within and outside the agency. Results affect work of other experts on development of major aspects of new programs. Work affects policy decisions or technical standards for others to follow.

6 - Personal Contacts. Contacts are with individuals or groups outside the agency, including governments and private industry. Contacts are not established on a routine basis.

7 - Purpose of Contacts. Contacts are to share and expand geodetic control ideas; to join in communication to solve common problems; to coordinate cooperative projects; to justify revisions and additions to agency guidelines; to justify positions on controversial issues; to explain the data of the project and its interpretation and to influence geodesist or officials to adopt technical points and methods when there are conflicts. Basically, individuals and groups work together with cooperative attitudes toward a common goal.

8 - Physical Demands. Work is primarily sedentary. There may be some walking, standing, bending; carrying light items (e.g. papers, small books). A valid driver's license may be required to drive an automobile in the performance of duties.

9 - Work Environment. Work is performed in a typical office setting. The work area is adequately lighted, heated, and ventilated.

IV. UNIQUE POSITION REQUIREMENTS

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

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