



[Home](#) > [HR Practitioners](#) > [Classification & Position Management](#) > [PD Library](#)

Physical Science (Aid) 03

GS-1311-03

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

Assists scientists and others with various technical procedures and practices.

II. MAJOR DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Performs simple assays using established protocols. Utilizes analytical equipment such as spectrophotometers, light and fluorescence microscopes, automated plate readers, centrifuges, etc. Cleans and helps maintain equipment by performing simple routine maintenance. Helps maintains inventory of chemicals and supplies.

III. FACTORS

Factor 1, Knowledge Required by the Position - FL 1-2, 200 points

Ability to learn the processes and procedures typical in an analytical laboratory. Knowledge of simple techniques and practices to perform basic analyses. Knowledge of analytical equipment operation.

Factor 2, Supervisory Controls - FL 2-2, 125 points

The project leader gives general instructions regarding time limits, potential technical problems and sources for additional guidance, and is available to assist with unfamiliar situations. Incumbent independently carries out routine and recurring assignments. Work is reviewed at completion to assure that methods used were technically accurate and instructions were followed.

Factor 3, Guidelines - FL 3-2, 125 points

Standard procedures involving sequential steps for doing the work have been established and are supplemented by specific instructions from the supervisor. Equipment operating manuals and other technical literature are available for reference purposes. Incumbent exercises judgment in locating and selecting appropriate guidelines for conducting procedures.

Factor 4, Complexity - FL 4-2, 75 points

The work involves related processes and methods. The decisions regarding how to proceed with an analysis may require choices based on specific situations.

Factor 5, Scope and Effect - FL 5-1, 25 points

The work involves specific operations limited to a few well defined tasks. The work facilitates the work of others within the work unit.

Factor 6, Personal Contacts - FL 6-1, 10 points

Contacts are with employees within the immediate work area.

Factor 7, Purpose of Contacts - FL 7-1, 20 points

The purpose of the contacts is to obtain or give facts related to the work.

Factor 8, Physical Demands - FL 8-2, 20 points

The work requires extensive standing and sitting on laboratory benches. There is some walking, bending and carrying of light to medium loads. The work requires above average agility and dexterity.

Factor 9, Work Environment - FL 9-2, 20 points

The work may be conducted in a laboratory environment with adequate heat, light and air conditioning or outdoors, sometimes aboard ships. May be required to wear special protective clothing such as gloves and safety goggles when handling hazardous materials or operating test equipment.

TOTAL POINTS - 620

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

IV. UNIQUE POSITION REQUIREMENTS

(Last Updated: November 4, 1994)

**[Website Feedback](#) [About OHRM](#) [Contact Us](#) [DOCHROC](#) [FOIA](#) [Site Map](#)
[Privacy Policy](#) [Commerce Homepage](#) [Careers at Commerce](#)
[Commerce Employees](#) [HR Practitioners](#)**