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## Physical Science Technician 05

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### GS-1311-05

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

Responsible for conducting a substantial variety of tests, selecting appropriate test procedures and/or techniques as required by the project goals, and makes various determinations. May prepare graphs and charts displaying results of the various analysis. Maintains accurate records and presents findings to supervisor or project leader for review and analysis of data. May calibrate or prepare equipment utilized in tests and makes minor repairs.

#### III. FACTORS

Factor 1, Knowledge Required by the Position - FL 1-4, 550 points

Knowledge of standard operating procedures sufficient to evaluate and analyze data. General knowledge of principles and functioning of analytical instrumentation including such things as balances, spectrophotometers, chromatographs, microscopes and scintillation counters. Knowledge of quantitative analysis techniques for a variety of sample types.

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

The project leader gives general oral instructions regarding time limits, potential technical problems and possible sources of additional guidance. Work is seldom checked in progress but general review of results obtained is accomplished at completion of project.

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 experimental 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 5-2, 75 points

The work involves assuring compliance with rules, regulations and procedures for determining various elements. The analyses carried out by the incumbent will play a substantial role in the success of the overall project.

Factor 6, Personal Contacts - FL 6-2, 25 points

Personal contacts are primarily with the scientific and technical staff within the laboratory and with suppliers and equipment representatives.

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

Purpose of the contacts is to obtain, clarify or give facts related to the assigned 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 - 1035

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

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

(Last Updated: November 4, 1994)

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