



U.S. DEPARTMENT of COMMERCE
Office of Human Resources Management

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Physical Scientist 05

GS-1301-05

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:

Serves as physical scientist trainee, performing duties designed to provide orientation in the mission and work of the organization. Conducts routine and limited analyses requiring professional knowledge of a combination of several physical science fields or a specialized one not identified with other existing series.

II. MAJOR DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Receives formal and on-job training in the functions and operations of the organization, agency policies and regulations, the specialty area in which the unit is concerned, analyses and procedures performed, and operation and calibration of common instruments.

Performs routine studies on limited projects and problems.

Uses established procedures for conducting studies and operation of common analytical instruments.

Writes reports identifying problem, methodology, and results.

III. FACTOR LEVELS

Factor 1 - Knowledge Required FL 1-5, 750 pts.

Knowledge of principles, theories, and practices of one or more physical sciences, as would typically be acquired through a bachelor's degree program, sufficient to perform trainee-level duties.

Factor 2 - Supervisory Controls FL 2-1, 25 pts.

Supervisor assigns work with clear, specific, and detailed instructions on methods, procedures, and guidelines. Employee strictly follows these, referring to supervisor or higher level scientist when there are matters not covered by the instructions. Work is reviewed in progress and upon completion for technical accuracy, adequacy, and compliance with instructions and procedures.

Factor 3 - Guidelines FL 3-1, 25 pts.

Guidelines include standard scientific references, established operating procedures, and directives which are specific and directly applicable. Employee adheres strictly to the guidelines, referring any deviations to supervisor or higher level scientist.

Factor 4 - Complexity FL 4-2, 75 pts.

Assignments consist of specific, well-defined, routine duties involving well-established procedures, designed to orient employee in the work and mission of the unit. Specific analyses and procedures are easily determined.

Factor 5 - Scope and Effect FL 5-1, 25 pts.

Purpose of work is to orient employee in mission and work of the unit. The work efforts facilitate the work of other scientists in the unit.

Factor 6 - Personal Contacts FL 6-1, 10 pts.

Personal contacts are with other scientists and technicians within the unit.

Factor 7 - Purpose of Contacts FL 7-1, 20 pts.

Contacts are to receive advice and assistance and to report the progress and results of the work.

Factor 8 - Physical Demands FL 8-1, 5 pts.

Work is primarily sedentary.

Factor 9 - Work Environment FL 9-1, 5 pts.

Work is performed in an office setting.

TOTAL = 940 pts.

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

IV. UNIQUE POSITION REQUIREMENTS

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