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Oceanographer 14

GS-1360-14

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

Provides expert analyses and techniques development, and/or maintenance of client relationship programs. Conceives, plans, and conducts work, often in unexplored areas where there is little or no theory to guide experimentation; new techniques/approaches need to be devised.

II. MAJOR DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Typical duties at this level include the following:

Restores, evaluates, corrects, and interprets historical oceanographic data that are at risk of being lost.

Serves as an expert consultant oceanographer to a large laboratory/bureau within the agency.

Reviews technical work of national and international bodies dealing with data management and information technologies, activities and standards.

III. FACTOR LEVELS

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

Mastery of the theories, principles, practices, and methods of oceanography sufficient to serve as technical expert in applying new developments and theories to novel problems not covered by accepted methods and extending approaches and precedents to critical problems.

Factor 2 - Supervisory Controls FL 2-5, 650 pts.

Supervisor provides administrative direction in terms of broadly defined missions or functions. Employee plans, designs, and carries out programs, projects, studies, and other work independently. Work is considered technically authoritative and is normally accepted without significant change.

Factor 3 - Guidelines FL 3-5, 650 pts.

Guidelines are primarily pertinent legislation and regulations and broad agency policies, objectives and mission statements. Judgment and ingenuity are used to interpret and adapt the few existing guidelines and to develop new approaches and methods. As a technical authority, employee is responsible for developing and interpreting policies as well as instructions, standards and methods used by operating personnel.

Factor 4 - Complexity FL 4-5, 325 pts.

Work involves development of new methods and techniques to solve obscure and novel problems. Solutions to one problem may be in direct conflict with solutions to another. Complicating factors include selecting the

approach and methods, interpreting considerable data and making deductions from intricate and inconclusive or variable data.

Factor 5 - Scope and Effect FL 5-5, 325 pts.

The purpose of the work is to isolate and define unknown conditions, resolve critical problems or develop new approaches and guides for oceanographers. Also, provides expert advice and assistance to scientists and officials both within and outside of the agency on a wide range of oceanographic matters. Work affects the work of scientific experts, high officials, or the development of major segments of NOAA programs.

Factor 6 - Personal Contacts FL 6-3, 60 pts.

Personal contacts are with scientists and officials in the agency's other regional offices, other Federal agencies, state and local governmental organizations, and the work of other expert oceanographers.

Factor 7 - Purpose of Contacts FL 7-4, 220 pts.

Purpose is to justify, defend, or finalize matters involving significant or controversial issues. Typical contacts are with persons with widely differing viewpoints/goals who must be persuaded to accept the agency's point of view or suitable compromises/alternatives.

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

The work is primarily sedentary.

Factor 9 - Work Environment FL 9-2, 20 pts.

While most of the work is performed in an office or laboratory setting, many oceanographers routinely spend time at sea subject to extreme, unexpected weather situations. Other oceanographers routinely visit hazardous material spills in coastal and estuarine waters requiring the use of protective clothing and equipment.

TOTAL = 3805 pts.

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

IV. UNIQUE POSITION REQUIREMENTS

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