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Physical Science Technician 10

GS-1311-10

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I. INTRODUCTION

This position is located in

As a senior technician performs or oversees a variety of technical processes and procedures.

II. MAJOR DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Serves as a senior technician for all phases of a long term program which may extend for several years. The performance of duties are essential to the successful outcome of the program and may include modification or development of techniques and practices necessary to carry out difficult technical procedures. Analyzes, or directs others in analyzing various samples and specimen. Monitors equipment performance, performs routine maintenance and diagnoses malfunctions of analytical equipment. Conducts periodic safety checks of the work area. Records, collates and summarizes all analytical data; provides oral and/or written reports to the project leader.

III. FACTORS

Factor 1, Knowledge Required by the Position - FL 1-6, 950 points

Knowledge of physical science theory sufficient to plan and carry out long term projects and determine causes for unexpected or inconsistent results. Knowledge of the full range of technical principles and procedures sufficient to plan and accomplish the day-to-day operations. Ability to guide the work of lower graded technicians and resolve problems which they are unable to solve. Ability to adapt routine procedures to meet unique investigative requirements.

Factor 2, Supervisory Controls - FL 2-4, 450 points

The supervisor or project leader sets the overall objectives and resources available. The incumbent and the supervisor develop deadlines, determine schedules and discuss desired outcome of the project. The incumbent is considered an expert technician and resolves problems related to the technical aspects of the project. Completed work is reviewed only in terms of compatibility with the other work and meeting the expected results.

Factor 3, Guidelines - FL 3-3, 275 points

Guides include procedures manuals, technical literature and equipment manuals, Guides are not always specific and require judgment to evaluate, select and adapt the established guides to specific requirements and problems. Adaptation of guides requires on-the-spot decisions as to appropriate courses of action.

Factor 4, Complexity - FL 4-4, 225 points

The work consists of complex tasks, often not routine in nature, that require application of technical skills in laboratory techniques and procedures, and extensive use of analytical equipment carried out with a high degree of independence. May require special security protocols during the analysis of standards and samples related to

law enforcement to assure chain-of-custody. Incumbent takes a lead roll in insuring compliance with established protocols and assists the project leader in revising and up-dating protocols as required.

Factor 5, Scope and Effect - FL 5-4, 225 points

The work comprises significant and required elements of programs within the work unit and may involve development of new and untried approaches to achieve desired results. Results of the work have a significant impact on the further processes within the unit which frequently have high visibility and upon private sector entities.

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 7-2, 50 points

The purpose of the contacts is to plan and coordinate the work efforts, provide technical information to coworkers and resolve problems.

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 or goggles when handling hazardous materials or operating test equipment.

TOTAL POINTS = 2240

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

IV. UNIQUE POSITION REQUIREMENTS

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