

PHYSICAL SCIENCES LABORATORY TECHNICIAN
(Bargaining Unit Position)
(Range 31)

DEFINITION

Under general supervision of the Physical Sciences and Mathematics Division Chair, provide technical assistance to the Physical Sciences faculty for the effective operation of the instructional program; and to perform other related duties as required.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS

The Physical Sciences Laboratory Technician class is distinguished from other Technician classes in that incumbents are required to be knowledgeable in the physical sciences and physical sciences laboratory equipment, methods, techniques, and materials.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS

- Assess need for, order, receive, inventory, and store all scientific supplies and equipment required for the Physical Sciences instructional program;
- Prepare standard stock chemical reagent solutions, distill solvents and special chemical reagents, and dilute solutions for faculty and student use;
- Assure that the proper laboratory supplies and equipment are ready for use at specified places and times as required by faculty and students;
- Monitor the purity of the deionized water system and order replacement tanks;
- Assist students to find and check operation of equipment;
- Construct, assemble, adjust, test, clean, and repair instruments and apparatus used for lecture and laboratory experiments and demonstrations;
- Dispense equipment and supplies from supply rooms to students as required by laboratory experiments;
- Record equipment checked out to students, and equipment breakage or loss;
- Equip and assign student laboratory drawers and lockers at the start of each term;
- Keep the laboratories, supply or stock rooms, preparation rooms, and any special purpose facilities in assigned area in orderly and neat condition;
- Notify the division chair when any assigned facility or equipment is in need of repair or service beyond the responsibility or capability of the laboratory technician;
- Assist in projecting the annual budget;
- Contact supply and equipment sources regarding purchases and problems;
- Operate scientific instruments and laboratory apparatus used in experiments and demonstrations; such as gas chromatographs, IR and UV spectrophotometers, analytical balances, spectrophotometers, pH meters, radiation monitors, and mechanical, thermal, wave, electrical, atomic and nuclear equipment;
- Use initiative and resources in recommending changes to improve functions relating to the use of laboratories and other scientific instruments, supplies, and equipment;
- Train and oversee the work of student laboratory assistants;
- Work independently on a variety of assignments requiring technical skills;
- Set up, modify, devise, service, adjust, and make minor repairs to apparatus and equipment;
- Use correct body mechanics and safety precautions in carrying out the physical requirements of the position;
- Demonstrate a sensitivity to and understanding of the diverse academic, socioeconomic, cultural, and ethnic backgrounds of staff and students and of staff and students with physical and learning disabilities;

- Establish and maintain cooperative working relationships;
- See for the purpose of reading laws and codes, rules and policies, and other printed matter;
- Hear and understand speech at normal levels;
- Understand and carry out oral and written directions;
- Speak so that others will be able to understand a normal in-person and telephone conversation;
- Work at a desk, conference table, or in meetings of various configurations;
- Lift and/or carry 75 pounds;
- Stand for extended periods of time;
- Bend and twist, push and pull, stoop;
- Reach in all directions;
- Perform other related duties as required.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS OF PARTICULAR POSITIONS WITHIN CLASSIFICATIONS MAY VARY BECAUSE JOB DUTIES MAY VARY BY WORK LOCATION.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS

Education:

- Graduation from the twelfth grade plus two years of college including general physical science, inorganic and organic chemistry, and one year of college physics; additional course work in instrumentation, electronics, college geology and biological science and/or Associate in Science degree preferred.

Experience:

- Related experience in the sciences preferred.

Knowledge of:

- Laboratory equipment, supplies, and the basic laboratory principle techniques found in the general physical science, first year inorganic and organic chemistry, first year geology, and physics laboratories of community colleges;
- Safety requirements necessary in operating and working with the chemicals and equipment required in community college physical sciences laboratory programs;
- Principles and techniques of supervision and training.

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