

RESEARCH ASSISTANT I

NATURE OF WORK

This is entrance level professional work in a research support capacity.

Work involves participation in research in any one of a number of disciplines including biology, chemistry, physics medicine and related sciences. Employees in this class engage in various researches related activities which are characterized by the need for formal college level training, but which do not require significant experience. Depending on the difficulty of individual assignments, supervision may vary from moderate to close. Supervision may be exercised over small groups of student assistants and nontechnical employees. Work is reviewed principally by observation of results obtained and through conferences.

ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLES OF WORK

Performs limited research involving routine procedures but characterized by the need for a moderate use of independent judgement.

Operates laboratory and experimental testing equipment and apparatus such as microtomes, ultramicrotomes, microscopes, electron microscopes, spectrophotometers, centrifuges, analytical balances, ph meters, x-ray machines, spectrometers and related equipment.

Conducts laboratory work requiring the performance of standard tests, routines and analyses where procedures are clearly defined and results are readily determined, but which are characterized by the need for a working knowledge of the principles of the field of research involved.

Conducts library searches; writes procedures; prepares charts and graphs; makes preliminary analyses; collects, classifies, catalogues, and processes field specimens.

Serves as instructional assistant as assigned.

Performs related work as required.

REQUIREMENTS OF WORK

Some related work experience; graduation with a degree from a four-year college or university with major course work in the field of assignment; or any equivalent combination of experience and training which provides the following knowledge, abilities and skills:

Knowledge of the principles of the field of learning in which the work is to be performed.

Some knowledge of the methods, materials, procedures and techniques used in research or experimental laboratory work.

Some knowledge of the practical and potential values of research and experimentation in the field involved.

Ability to understand and follow complex oral and written instructions.

Ability to prepare written reports of test results and analyses.

Ability to participate in the evaluation and analysis of existing techniques and procedures and to assist in devising new techniques and procedures.

Ability to observe, analyze and report objectively the results of research experimentation.

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1993.03.18

Confirmed: 2004.01.05