



Classification: Laboratory Evidence Technician I
Title Code: V00525
Pay Range: 14

POSITION SUMMARY:

This is an entry-level technical position where the employee is responsible for receiving, securing, and returning physical evidence submitted to the laboratory by law enforcement agencies for analysis in criminal cases. Work involves general clerical duties (e.g., answering telephone inquiries, typing and maintaining various laboratory records and files, etc.); cleaning; working with biological and chemical hazards; communicating with law enforcement agencies, attorneys, and various state agencies in reference to cases or evidence samples. An employee in this position may come in contact with contaminated materials while handling evidence. An employee in this position participates in a formal and on-the-job training program. Work is performed under detailed direction and close supervision.

DESCRIPTION OF DUTIES PERFORMED:

(Any one position may not include all of the duties listed nor do the listed examples include all tasks which may be found in positions of this class.)

Regularly handles a variety of potentially hazardous materials (e.g. HIV or hepatitis contaminated biological evidence).

Performs job-related travel as needed.

Receives and returns physical evidence for laboratory analysis using current proper procedures; maintains chain of custody for each piece of evidence submitted from law enforcement agencies (i.e., contaminated blood, urine, semen and other body fluids that may harbor infectious diseases or unknown pathogens).

Transports, stores and accounts for all physical evidence including drugs, DNA samples, confiscated currency, hazardous materials, weapons, etc., according to current proper crime laboratory procedures. Conducts inventory and audits of all evidence stored within the Crime Laboratory bi-annually.

Maintains the integrity of evidence by following appropriate chain of custody procedures and storage requirements (e.g., locating, sealing or unsealing, initialing, dating, labeling, and retrieving or returning to proper storage area).

Answers the telephone; screens calls; handles routine inquiries and transfers calls to proper personnel; contacts law enforcement agencies, prosecuting attorneys for case related information; distributes subpoenas to appropriate laboratory personnel.

Disseminates information to the appropriate authority while maintaining confidentiality of other customers.

Files and maintains laboratory reports, records and other related correspondence as required; issues periodic and special reports as assigned; archives case files; assists in the preparation of materials for court appearances; may appear in court as a witness.

Provides advice to law enforcement officers delivering evidence in the proper method of packaging, sealing, and labeling of evidence; aids in the preparation of forms that accompany evidence dealing with examinations requested and background information of the case.

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Cleans and monitors office equipment; contacts manufacturer to obtain assistance in repairing equipment; performs quality control checks and readings on refrigeration units.

Orders, stocks, and stores chemicals, reagents, and supplies necessary to perform laboratory tests; and maintains a supply inventory and reorders as needed.

Maintains manual and computer databases and inventories.

Performs routine and specialized work area cleaning and decontamination duties using appropriate chemicals and housekeeping materials.

Assists with the preparation of evidentiary samples for testing and maintains accurate detailed records.

Activates and deactivates laboratory security system.

Provides laboratory access to authorized personnel and documents access as needed.

Performs other related duties as assigned.

REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES:

Ability to read English effectively.

Ability to communicate in English clearly and concisely, both orally and in writing.

Ability to learn and practice the safety rules and procedures associated with laboratory equipment and chemicals.

Ability to perform work in accordance with prescribed procedures, and prepare accurate records and reports.

Ability to maintain composure while under cross-examination regarding personal and professional qualifications.

Ability to work with restricted, highly sensitive information in a confidential and professional manner.

Ability to establish and maintain harmonious working relations with others.

Ability to work with material that may be biohazardous or of a sexual nature relating to criminal activity (e.g., written material, photographs, and/or verbal language, etc.).

Ability to work hours as assigned.

Possess or ability to obtain a valid Missouri Driver license.

Ability to perform job-related travel (e.g., appearing in court, relaying evidence, attending training meetings and seminars, etc.).

Ability to stand for extended periods and lift moderate loads (30 pounds).

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Ability to communicate and interact effectively in the explanation of evidence transfers to other law enforcement agencies, prosecutors and court personnel.

Ability to learn the statutory requirements and Patrol policies and procedures regarding the dissemination of information.

Ability to learn to calibrate, clean, repair, and maintain office equipment.

Ability to learn the laboratory information management system (LIMS) and enter data accurately.

Ability to alphabetize, transport, file, and purge records/documents.

Ability to make sound decisions pertaining to laboratory office procedures involving the handling of evidence in the absence of the supervisor.

Ability to learn about the chain of custody and storage requirements of evidence in reference to the various disciplines of the laboratory.

Ability to learn laboratory security policy and procedures.

Ability to handle firearms, explosive materials, and biological and chemical hazards in a safe manner using proper protocols and safety procedures.

Ability to handle evidence and prepare samples without causing deleterious change.

Ability to route phone calls and mail to appropriate division personnel.

Ability to transport awkward articles (i.e., suitcases, tires, doors, etc.), tools, and equipment.

Ability to climb stepladders to retrieve/store articles of evidence.

Ability to recognize, identify, and document case details accurately.

Ability to maintain accurate manual and computer databases and inventories.

Ability to effectively use cleaning solutions in the work area according to manufacturer's recommendations.

Ability to operate basic office equipment as detailed in the description of duties.

MINIMUM EXPERIENCE AND EDUCATION REQUIRED:

(The following represents the minimum qualifications used to accept applicants, provided that equivalent substitution may be permitted in case of deficiencies in either experience or education.)

Graduation from high school or possess a GED.

NECESSARY SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:

Must provide a DNA sample to be used only for forensic identification as required at the time of appointment.

Must be able to pass a polygraph examination after conditional offer of employment.

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Must successfully complete a six-month probationary period upon employment.

Must submit to periodic random drug testing.

FLSA STATUS: Non-Exempt

WORK SCHEDULE: An employee in this position works an eight-hour shift as directed; however, working hours are subject to change at the discretion of the commanding authority.