Office of Human Resources

Forensic Laboratory Technician – CE2442

**General Statement of Duties**

Performs entry level work to prepare and/or analyze non-probative forensic-type samples in support of forensic research, training, and validation projects, and performs quality control or quality assurance checks on laboratory instruments and reagents to support forensic casework duties.

**Distinguishing Characteristics**

This class performs intermediate level technical work to prepare and/or analyze non-probative forensic-type samples in support of forensic research, training, and validation projects, and performs quality control or quality assurance checks on laboratory instruments and reagents to support forensic casework duties. This class is distinguished from the Forensic Scientist I, who performs intermediate level professional forensic work while receiving on-the-job training in the methods, practices, procedures, and equipment of forensic science by applying physical sciences to the investigation of crimes and conducting scientific laboratory analyses on physical evidence.

**Guidelines, Difficulty and Decision-Making Level**

Guidelines are generally numerous, well established, and directly applicable to the work assignment. Work assignment and desired results are explained by general oral or written instructions.

Duties assigned are generally repetitive and restricted in scope but may be of substantial intricacy. Employee primarily applies standardized practices.

Decisions or recommendations on non-standardized situations are limited to relating organizational policies to specific cases. Problems that are not covered by guidelines or are without precedent are taken up with the supervisor.

**Level of Supervision Received & Quality Review**

Under normal supervision, within a standardized work situation, the employee performs duties common to the line of work without close supervision or detailed instruction. Work product is subject to continual review.

**Interpersonal Communication & Purpose**

Contacts with the public or employees where explanatory or interpretive information is exchanged, gathered, or presented and some degree of discretion and judgment are required within the parameters of the job function.

**Level of Supervision Exercised**

None

**Essential Duties**

Supports forensic research, training, and validation projects by preparing and/or analyzing non-probative samples, and maintains proper documentation of work product.

Operates necessary laboratory equipment to conduct quality control checks on instruments and equipment, identifies problems, and either performs the necessary adjustments or conducts or schedules maintenance.

Monitors equipment performance within established tolerance ranges and completes regular maintenance and performance checks on laboratory equipment.

City and County of Denver
Cleans and/or sterilizes glassware and other utensils within autoclave or cross-linker. Performs proper cleaning procedures within established guidelines.

Prepares reagents utilizing defined procedures for use by forensic scientists on casework.

Performs quality control/quality assurance checks on reagents utilizing defined procedures and maintains documentation.

Stocks all areas with adequate and proper supplies and orders necessary stock.

Ensures the laboratory is clean and sterile, which may include instruments, countertops, and other laboratory fixtures.

Maintains established department policies and procedures, quality improvement, safety, environmental, and infection standards.

Attends meetings as required.

Maintains laboratory records as required, including preparing and providing discoverable case files for court.

Performs other related duties as assigned or requested.

Any one position may not include all of the duties listed. However, the allocation of positions will be determined by the amount of time spent in performing the essential duties listed above.

**Competencies**

Attention to Detail - Is thorough when performing work and conscientious about attending to detail.

Reading - Understands and interprets written material, including technical material, rules, regulations, instructions, reports, charts, graphs, or tables; applies what is learned from written material to specific situations.

Reasoning - Identifies rules, principles, or relationships that explain facts, data, or other information; analyzes information and makes correct inferences or draws accurate conclusions.

Technical Competence - Uses knowledge that is acquired through formal training or extensive on-the-job experience to perform one's job; works with, understands, and evaluates technical information related to the job; advises others on technical issues.

Written Communication – Composes, reviews, edits, and issues written materials for diverse audiences and communicates purpose in a succinct and organized manner that is appropriate for context, time, and place.

**Knowledge & Skills**

None

**Education Requirement**

Associate's Degree in Chemistry, Biochemistry, or a related field.

**Experience Requirement**

None
**Education & Experience Equivalency**

One (1) year of the appropriate type and level of experience may be substituted for each required year of post-high school education.

Additional appropriate education may be substituted for the minimum experience requirements.

**Licensure & Certification**

It is a condition of employment that the Denver Police Forensics & Evidence Division form for consent for collection of a DNA sample be completed at the time of hire.

**Working Environment**

Subject to many interruptions.
Pressure due to multiple calls and inquiries.
Wet: frequent contact with water or other liquid.
Potential exposure to hazardous/toxic chemicals.
Potential exposure to chemicals, gas and low-level radiation.
Potential exposure to conditions that affect the skin or respiratory system.
Potential exposure to hazards of steam and heat.
Potential exposure to housekeeping/cleaning agents/chemicals.
Potential exposure to odorous chemicals and specimens.
Potential exposure to unpleasant elements (accidents, injuries, and illnesses).
Potential exposure to hazardous anesthetic agents, bodily fluids, and wastes.
Potential exposure to infection from disease-bearing specimens.
Potential exposure to risk of blood borne diseases.

**Level of Physical Demand**

3-Medium (20-50 lbs.)

**Physical Demands**

(Physical Demands are a general guide and specific positions will vary based on working conditions, locations, and agency/department needs.):

Walking: moving about on foot.
Sitting: remaining in the normal seated position.
Standing: remaining on one’s feet in an upright position.
Lifting: raising or lowering objects weighing no more than 50 pounds, from one level to another.
Carrying: transporting an object, usually by hand, arm, or shoulder.
Balancing: maintaining body equilibrium to prevent falling over.
Stooping: bending the body by bending spine at the waist.
Crouching: bending body downward and forward by bending legs.
Reaching: extending the hand(s) and arm(s) in any direction.
Handling: seizing, holding, grasping, or otherwise working with hands.
Fingering: picking, pinching, or otherwise working with fingers.
Feeling: perceiving attributes of objects by means of skin receptors.
Repetitive motions: making frequent movements with a part of the body.
Field of Vision: ability to see peripherally.
Accommodation: ability to adjust vision to bring objects into focus.
Color Vision: ability to distinguish and identify different colors.
Depth Perception: ability to judge distances and space relationships.
Pulling: Exerting force upon an object so that it is moving to the person.
Pushing: exerting force upon an object so that the object is moving away from the person.

**Background Check Requirement**

- Criminal Check
- Education Check
- Employment Verification

**Assessment Requirement**

None

**Probation Period**

Six (6) months.

**Class Detail**

- Pay Grade: E-619
- FLSA Code: N
- Management Level: 10
- Established Date: 9/21/2018
- Established By: Lori Schumann
- Revised Date: 5/31/19
- Revised By: Susan O'Neill
- Class History: 5/31/19 changed experience from two years to no years of experience to align with other in series.