CITY OF HOUSTON

JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Code: 771.2

Job Title: **MICROBIOLOGIST II**

Pay Grade: 17

GENERAL SUMMARY:

Performs technical bacteriological, serological and virological laboratory work according to clearly prescribed procedures and laboratory techniques.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Assists in microbiological reseach programs.
- Performs varied laboratory tests for the detection, isolation and identification of viruses and bacteria that cause human or animal diseases.
- Isolates microorganisms from specimens and identifies those pathogens using biochemical and serological techniques.
- Assists in and/or performs various tests related to the detection of viral or fungal infections.
- Maintains stock cultures for the preparation of solutions used in viral and bacteriological testing.
- Compiles and records lab data and results; completes required reports as necessary.
- Performs other technical assignments as required.

SPECIFICATIONS:

KNOWLEDGE:
A Bachelor's degree in Biology, Bacteriology, Microbiology or a closely related field is required.

When assigned to Health Department:
A Bachelor's degree in Microbiology, Biology, Chemistry, Clinical Laboratory Science, or a Physical Science from an accredited institution is required.

EXPERIENCE:
One year of experience in laboratory work dealing with bacteriology, serology or virology is required.

COMPLEXITY:
Work requires the direct application of a variety of procedures, policies and/or precedents. Moderate analytic ability is required in applying guidelines, policies and procedures, and in adapting standard methods to fit facts and conditions.

IMPACT OF ACTIONS:
Errors in work cause some expense and inconvenience. Work is typically performed under moderate supervision and within standard operating procedures. The incumbent occasionally can function autonomously, with the supervisor available to answer questions as they arise.

SPECIFICATIONS: (continued)

SUPERVISION EXERCISED:

Direct Supervision:
No direct report employees.

Indirect Supervision:
No indirect reports.

CONTACTS:

Internal Contacts:
Level of internal contact is primarily with clerical and technical staffs. Interaction involves routine information exchange and/or simple service activity requiring common courtesy; e.g., answering questions, giving directions in response to simple requests.

External Contacts:
Level of external contact is primarily with lower-level service representative and vendors. Interaction involves routine information exchange and/or simple service activity which requires common courtesy; e.g., directing calls and answering simple questions.

PHYSICAL EFFORT:
The position occasionally requires stooping or bending. Occasional very light lifting, such as three or four reams of papers or books (up to 20 pounds or an equivalent weight) may be required.

WORK ENVIRONMENT:
There are frequent exposures to extreme levels of temperature, air pollution, noise pollution, chemical gases and substances, and/or contagious diseases or physical trauma conditions of a short-term disabling nature, such as broken bones or temporary loss of sight or hearing.

PHYSICAL SKILL:
Requires the ability to make closely coordinated eye/hand movements within very fine tolerance and/or calibration demands; or the ability to make rapid closely coordinated eye/hand movements on a patterned response space within somewhat fine tolerance demands; or the ability to make coordinated eye/hand movements within fine tolerances with large equipment as an extension of the worker.

MISCELLANEOUS:
All duties and responsibilities may not be listed in the above job description.

JOB FAMILY:
Microbiologist I
Microbiologist II
Microbiologist III
Microbiologist IV
Laboratory Supervisor
Laboratory Manager

Effective: October 1990
Revised: March 2017
Revised: August 2023