Research Job Function

Research Assistant I - Lab
Grade 52

This is a model job description. The duties listed below are representative and characteristic of the duties required. They are intended to suggest a level of skill and complexity and as such are not a substitute for the specific descriptions for individual positions.

Summary
Under specific direction, performs a variety of basic and general laboratory research and clerical tasks determined by the field and scope of the particular research study. May perform tasks related to the research project independently, but within specific guidelines and subject to review by supervisor or other research staff.

Typical Duties

1. Performs laboratory experiments utilizing specific and proscribed techniques and equipment;
2. Collects project data;
3. Under direction, processes, organizes and summarizes data, reporting experiment results using a variety of scientific, word processing, spreadsheet or statistical software applications or program platforms;
4. As a member of a project team, may assist in the design of laboratory experiments, techniques, and protocols;
5. May perform routine logging and/or testing of samples;
6. May occasionally instruct others in basic laboratory techniques;
7. Performs related laboratory maintenance such as maintaining and cleaning equipment and ordering supplies;
8. May process orders or invoices, or undertake other clerical and simple accounting duties under the direction of administrative personnel.

Typical Requirements

Education: College background or equivalent work experience, preferably in a related discipline.

Skills and Experience: At least one year related work experience (relevant course work may count towards experience). Demonstrated abilities in basic laboratory techniques helpful, but not required. Exposure to applicable computer technologies, including specific software applications, may be required. Appropriate communications skills required.
**Working Conditions:** May be required to lift, move and transport related laboratory equipment. May be required to work with a variety of hazardous materials. May be required to work with and handle animals.

Other [HUCTW generic job descriptions](#) can be found in HARVie’s Union Contracts section.