

Class Concept

This is supervisory, administrative and advanced professional work in directing a large, complex laboratory or section engaged in both standardized and non-standardized testing for a wide variety of substances. Employees direct, review and evaluate the work of subordinates; and develop and make major adjustments and modifications to methods, procedures, schedules, assignments and project priorities. Employees normally perform some of the more complex, controversial or advanced work of their laboratory or section, while devoting the majority of their time to administrative duties. Employees function as the technical expert of their laboratory and normally make most of the final technical decisions. Work includes testifying in court or at hearings as a technical expert, and determining the kind of extent of analysis required to solve a problem. Employees apply a very advanced and in-depth knowledge of chemistry principles, concepts, theories, methods and equipment to develop, conduct, evaluate and direct the most complex qualitative and quantitative chemical analyses on a very wide variety of substances. Employees review and evaluate new equipment, methods, procedures and other new developments in their field, and select, arrange and modify equipment and instrumentation to plan and implement very complex testing operations. Guidelines and references are broad and non-specific and include legislation, laws, regulations, general objectives and mission statements. Work may include other duties and responsibilities as assigned.

Recruitment Standards

Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities

- Thorough knowledge of the principles, concepts, theories, reference sources and laboratory applications of chemistry and other related sciences.
- Advanced knowledge of the laws, regulations and agency policies governing area of responsibility. Considerable knowledge of scientific methodology and of laboratory safety practices.
- Ability to supervise and evaluate the work of chemists and chemistry technicians.
- Ability to independently perform the most complex standardized, non-standardized and developmental laboratory procedures; to analyze results; interpret and develop methodology; and to understand and solve the most complex theoretical problems.
- Ability to review and express technical information clearly, both orally and in writing.
- Ability to perform advanced mathematics and statistical analysis, to perceive colors normally and to make olfactory distinctions.
- Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships.

Minimum Education and Experience

Bachelor's degree in chemistry from an appropriately accredited institution and six years of progressive chemistry laboratory experience including at least one year supervisory experience; or an equivalent combination of education and directly related experience.

Note: This is a generalized representation of positions in this class and is not intended to identify essential functions per ADA.