

## SENIOR LABORATORY TECHNICIAN (I-PULMONARY)

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: Under general supervision, an incumbent in this class is responsible for performing pulmonary function tests to obtain data on the functioning level of patients' respiratory processes for use by physicians in diagnosing and treating pulmonary disorders. Responsibilities include performing pulmonary function tests, maintaining and calibrating respiration equipment and maintaining daily records, reports and statistics of laboratory activity. Work is performed in close coordination with physicians in the Division of Pulmonary Medicine. Incumbents must be sensitive to and give priority to urgent or "stat" test which may require overtime work after regularly scheduled hours. Does related work as required.

### EXAMPLES OF WORK: (Illustrative Only)

Performs blood gas analyses to determine the saturation of oxygen in the blood, hemoglobin count and other content such as pH, PO<sub>2</sub> and PCO<sub>2</sub> using blood gas analyzing equipment, reflectance oximeter, micro hematocrit centrifuge and radiometer;

Performs pulmonary function tests, which include spirometry, lung volumes by helium dilution, nitrogen washout, or plethysmograph;

Performs arterial and venous puncture;

Performs ear oxymeter tests on patients undergoing assessment of oxygenation at rest or exercise, including titration of oxygen therapy;

Explains to patients the nature of the test and procedures, and trains them in the proper use of inhaled bronchodilators and other respiratory tools;

Test, calibrates and maintains equipment to ensure correct readings, following specified procedures;

Assists in the maintenance, cleaning, and use of fiberoptic bronchoscope and related equipment;

Ensures the proper recording of all test results, equipment calibrations, and maintenance according to established procedures;

Ensures the maintenance of an adequate inventory of supplies;

Prepares detailed reports, including reports of individual patient studies and statistical reports of laboratory activity;

REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND ATTRIBUTES: Good knowledge of modern laboratory techniques and procedures, particularly as they apply to pulmonary physiology and the basis for various pulmonary function tests; good knowledge of the procedures used in the operation and maintenance of the various tools and equipment used in a Pulmonary Laboratory; ability to perform pulmonary function tests on sick patients, evaluate the results and monitor patient response to tests; ability to set-up, calibrate and maintain equipment used for pulmonary function tests; sound professional judgment; reliability; accuracy; physical condition commensurate with the requirements of the position.

MINIMUM ACCEPTABLE TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE: High school or equivalency diploma and either (a) completion of 62 credits\* at a college or university with major course work in a chemical or biological science and one year of clinical experience performing pulmonary function tests; or (b) satisfactory completion of an approved school or hospital program in Respiratory Therapy and one year of experience as stated in (a); or (c) possession of certification or by the National Board of Respiratory Care as a Certified Pulmonary Function Technologist or registration as a Registered Pulmonary Function Technologist.

\*NOTE: The National Board of Respiratory Care issues two levels of credentials in pulmonary technology, the Certified Pulmonary Function Technologist and the Registered Pulmonary Function Technologist.

\*SPECIAL NOTE: Education beyond the secondary level must be from an institution recognized or accredited by the Board of Regents of the New York State Education Department as a post-secondary, degree-granting institution.