

TOXICOLOGIST SPECIALIST

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: Under general supervision, an incumbent of this class performs the more difficult and complex toxicological examinations of biological fluids, tissues, licit and illicit drugs using chemical, physical and instrumental methods of analysis. Performs chemical analyses for the quantitation of alcohol. Responsibilities include, the technical training of personnel, performing complex analyses, and conducts research and development projects. This position functions as a specialist in a particular area or areas of laboratory functions. Does related work as required.

EXAMPLES OF WORK: (Illustrative Only)

Performs difficult and complex chemical, physical and instrumental methods of analysis of tissues, biological fluids, licit and illicit drugs for toxicological purposes;

Performs chemical analyses to determine the quantity of alcohol;

Acts as specialist in one or more of the toxicological specialties;

Assists in identifying, evaluating and recommending the need for program modification and specific technical training;

Provides technical training in procedures and methods of analysis to toxicology personnel;

Attends training sessions to keep abreast of new laboratory procedures, techniques and equipment;

Maintains orderliness and cleanliness of work areas;

Participates in internal and external proficiency testing programs;

Ensures the maintenance of proper supplies, equipment, solutions and reagents;

Participates in the teaching programs of the Department;

Testifies in court regarding laboratory analyses and the significance of the results.

REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND ATTRIBUTES: Thorough knowledge of the qualitative and quantitative organic and inorganic chemistry; thorough knowledge of modern laboratory techniques, procedures, instrumentation and safety precautions used in the fields of Clinical and Forensic Toxicology; ability to perform toxicological examinations; ability to train technical personnel; ability to understand and follow complex technical verbal and written instructions; accuracy; thoroughness; dependability; resourcefulness; integrity; physical condition commensurate with the demands of the position.

MINIMUM ACCEPTABLE TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE: A Bachelor's* Degree in Toxicology, Biochemistry, Biology, Chemistry, Medical Technology or closely related field, which must have included or been supplemented by twenty credit* hours in Chemistry, and either; (a) a Master's Degree* in Toxicology, Biochemistry, Biology, Chemistry, Medical Technology or Pharmacology and three years of recent, responsible experience in an approved Toxicology Laboratory; or (b) four years of experience as stated above in (a).

*NOTE: The twenty credit hours of chemistry may be obtained at the undergraduate or graduate level or in any combination of undergraduate or graduate level credit hours.

*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.