

0401 – Biologist

Major Duties for This Position May Include:

- The incumbent for this position performs biological science work or support work in various scientific and public health areas associated with numerous biological agents.
- Acquires and organizes materials and information to carry out study procedures for assigned projects, upgrading current capabilities where appropriate.
- Experiments involve investigating, analyzing, and evaluating problems and situations involving a wide variety of circumstances or unusual conditions for activities carried out in the scientific area.
- Responsible for knowing and carrying out guidelines and regulations related to proper handling and storage of various biological materials.

Related Competencies

- Research
- Public Health Knowledge
- Data Collection
- Laboratory/Field Management

Basic Requirements

Successful completion of a full four-year course of study at an accredited college or university leading to a bachelor's or higher degree in biological sciences, agriculture, natural resource management, chemistry, or related disciplines to the position.

Or

Have a combination of education and experience which includes courses equivalent to a major field of study or specific course requirements in biological sciences, agriculture, natural resource management, chemistry, or related disciplines, plus appropriate experience, or additional education.

Minimum Qualifications

In additions to meeting the basic requirements above, applicants must meet the minimum qualifications requirement as defined below:

GS-11 Specialized Experience Requirements

You must have one year of specialized experience at a level of difficulty and responsibility equivalent to the GS-09 grade level in the Federal Service. Specialized experience for this position includes:

- Experience in clinical or research laboratory collecting and preparing specialized and non-routine tests and analyzing test problems and recommending solutions.

Or Education

Completed 3 years of progressively higher-level graduate education leading to a Ph.D. degree or Ph.D. or equivalent doctoral degree that is directly related to the duties of the position.

Or Combination

You may qualify on a combination of education and experience. The total percentage of experience at the required grade level compared to the requirement, must equal at least 100 percent. Only graduate level education more than the first 36 semester hours (54 quarter hours) may be combined to be considered for qualifying education. **TRANSCRIPTS REQUIRED.**

GS-12 Specialized Experience Requirements

You must have one year of specialized experience at a level of difficulty and responsibility equivalent to the GS-11 grade level in the Federal Service. Specialized experience for this position includes:

- Experience in clinical or research laboratory performing biological science or support work in various scientific and public health areas and reviewing, analyzing and troubleshoot testing problems.

Note: There is no substitution of education for specialized experience at the GS-12 level.

GS-13 Specialized Experience Requirements

You must have one year of specialized experience at a level of difficulty and responsibility equivalent to the GS-12 grade level in the Federal Service. Specialized experience for this position includes:

- Planning, developing, and implementing laboratory quality control standards and practices in laboratory quality management and making recommendations to compliance reports findings.

Note: There is no substitution of education for specialized experience at the GS-13 level.

GS-14 Specialized Experience Requirements

You must have one year of specialized experience at a level of difficulty and responsibility equivalent to the GS-13 grade level in the Federal Service. Specialized experience for this position includes:

- Performing scientific work involving studies of the functions, environmental response, biological activities and/or processes of humans and/or animals and/or conducting studies to evaluate the biological effects of various compounds of public health interests.

Note: There is no substitution of education for specialized experience at the GS-14 level.

GS-15 Specialized Experience Requirements

You must have one year of specialized experience at a level of difficulty and responsibility equivalent to the GS-14 grade level in the Federal Service. Specialized experience for this position includes:

- Applying mechanisms of molecular biology, toxicology and/or physiology to human risk assessment; and directing and administering research programs in molecular biology, physiology, and/or toxicology.

Note: There is no substitution of education for specialized experience at the GS-15 level.

Experience refers to paid and unpaid experience. Examples of qualifying unpaid experience may include volunteer work done through National Service programs (such as Peace Corps and AmeriCorps), as well as work for other community-based philanthropic and social organizations. Volunteer work helps build critical competencies, knowledge, and skills; and can provide valuable training and experience that translates directly to paid employment. You will receive credit for all qualifying experience, including volunteer experience.