Research Associate I

Professional & Managerial Band 02

Positions at this level requires knowledge of related scientific theory, principles and practices in order to conduct experiments, analyze research results, implement and provide input to established protocols and scientific methods, and complete assigned research projects.

Typical Duties may include some or all of the following:

- Conducts experiments requiring in-depth knowledge of subject matter, including scientific theory and principles; identify limitations and bring forward concerns and recommendations with established research methods and project plan
- Using specialized scientific knowledge, prepares and conducts experiments; providing input with respect to appropriate methodology, procedures, equipment and standards to produce required research data;
- Applies specialized knowledge and principles to review, appraise and interpret published literature, summarize research findings, and draft scientific/technical reports, manuscripts, grant proposals
- Contributes to the development and evaluation of data collection instruments, databases, and related programs for data collection, analysis and reporting
- Uses advanced scientific equipment, techniques and/or software requiring specialized knowledge/expertise
- Contribute to the development and adoption of new experimental protocols, methods, and standard operating procedures
- Establish and maintain effective relationships with external partners, which may include coordinating of project plans, presenting research findings (may include presenting findings at conferences)
- Independently facilitates focus group sessions with project participants

Decision Making/Accountability: Independent judgement in applying scientific principles, interpreting research data, and conducting experiments within established protocol. Incumbent makes day-to-day decisions based on established scientific framework, principles and theory; Regular consultation and oversight provided from senior researchers or principal investigator on deviations or changes to established protocol.

Contacts/Interpersonal Skills: Contacts and interactions may extend beyond associates within their work area, and may include external partners and researchers. May present/discuss ideas related to research project to external contacts.

Supervision Received: Consults with supervisor on decisions that deviate outside of established protocol.

Supervision Exercised: Although not responsible for supervising or overseeing the work of others, this position may provide technical expertise, guidance and/or mentorship to junior level researchers and/or students. May include advising/supervising undergraduate and/or graduate students on specific research protocol, techniques or best-practices.

Working Environment: Work may be performed in an office, laboratory, or field work outside, with potential exposure to outdoor elements, temperature extremes, chemicals and/or hazardous materials or equipment. May operate machinery or equipment or work with animals, where there is an increased risk of injury.

Minimum Qualifications:

- Master’s degree in relevant discipline, with some related research experience
- Or equivalent combination of education and experience (some roles may require more extensive experience or training in a particular area of research)