



VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

The Department of Health has a career opportunity for qualified candidates for the following position:

Title Research Scientist 1, Microbiology [Classified Non-Competitive]			Salary R30 \$80,909.10 - \$115,462.71
Posting Number 365-18	Position Number 956524	Number of Positions 1	Posting Period * From: 11/7/2018 To: 11/21/2018
Location: Public Health & Environmental Laboratories 3 Schwarzkopf Drive, Ewing, NJ, 08628			Scope of Eligibility/Open to: Applicants who Meet the Requirements

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Under direction of the Public Health Laboratory Medical and Service Directors, and in compliance with the Federal CDC/APHIS-Division of Select Agents and Toxins Program regulations and guidelines, manages the Biothreat Response Laboratory (BTRL) to accomplish its mission and objectives.

The BTRL has three overarching goals: 1) to provide accurate clinical information for the diagnosis of disease caused by select agents and toxins in individual patients; 2) to support state and federal agencies in the detection, characterization and enumeration of infectious disease threats to public health and safety (State agencies may use BTRL data for mitigation and prevention of diseases threats); 3) to serve as the state CDC Laboratory Response Network (LRN) Reference Laboratory for testing biothreat agents. The program supports clinical diagnostic and evaluative testing for surveillance and outbreak analysis as well as in forensic studies. BTRL has several primary stakeholders, clinicians, patients, epidemiologists conducting outbreaks investigations, law enforcement agencies conducting criminal investigations and the CDC laboratory response network.

The BTRL performs serologic, antigenic, molecular and culture-based testing for select agents and toxins. Current areas of focus include molecular testing for viral and bacterial agents in human and environmental specimens. It performs assays to identify the presence of Zika, Dengue, Chikungunya other viral entities and participates in the Antimicrobial Resistance Laboratory Network.

The BTRL Program Manager maintains compliance with 42 CFR Part 73 Select Agent Rule through annual participation in internal audits, exercises, drills, proficiency testing and training. Assures all security risk assessed personnel comply with biosafety, biosecurity and incident response plans and procedures. This individual will serve as an effective liaison with Federal agencies, first responders, law enforcement, safety officers, Medical Directors, Information Technology and other individuals and agencies to assure situational awareness and operational readiness.

The BTRL is responsible for implementing new diagnostic and surveillance testing methods related to select agents and other pathogens. This individual also oversees the implementation, development and validation of new test methods and activities in the Bio-Threat Response Laboratory Unit. The position will have close interaction and coordinate activities with the Microbiology, Virology, Enteric bacteriology, Mycobacteriology, Special bacteriology and Sanitary bacteriology. This position functions as a Technical Supervisor under the Clinical and Laboratory Improvement Amendment of 1988 (CLIA) and College of American Pathologists (CAP) guidelines. The Technical Supervisor is responsible for the technical oversight of the BTRL and may provide cross coverage for aspects of the Rabies, Viral Serology, Viral Culture and Molecular Virology sections.

Quality management, safety procedure compliance and management of federal grants and state agreements are also key responsibilities of this position. Specific job duties include but are not limited to: manages and assists with recruitment, establishes work and holiday schedules to assure compliance with DSAT regulations (required 24/7 emergency service coverage), supervision and cross training of staff ; conducts performance appraisals, disciplinary actions, coaches, counsels and motivates staff to achieve peak performance; maintains the unit in a state of readiness to respond to public health emergencies to mitigate impact of select agents and toxins on the health of NJ's residents and its economy; develops and manages a budget for BTRL; regularly monitors relevant key financial and performance indicators; ensures compliance with all regulatory agencies; Guarantees that turn-around time goals are met to achieve results in accordance with state and federal guidelines; works in collaboration with other internal programs and other divisions of the in the NJ Dept. of Health as well as with community partners to provide accurate and timely laboratory services and information; serves as the primary liaison between the BTRL and the Communicable Disease Services team. Maintain a working knowledge and hands on experience with tests in the unit to ensure continuity of operation.

REQUIREMENTS (EDUCATION / EXPERIENCE / LICENSES)

EDUCATION: Graduation from an accredited college or university with a Master of Science degree in microbiology or other appropriate biological discipline.

EXPERIENCE: Four (4) years of experience in microbiological analysis or research.

NOTE: A Doctorate in a microbiological discipline may be substituted for two (2) years of experience indicated above.

OR

EDUCATION: Graduation from an accredited college or university with a Bachelor of Science degree in microbiology or other appropriate biological discipline.

EXPERIENCE: Four (4) years of experience in microbiological analysis or research AND one (1) year of experience in the operation of high pressure liquid chromatography, flow cytometry, or other appropriate laboratory instrument(s).

LICENSE: Appointee will be required to possess a driver's license valid in New Jersey only if the operation of a vehicle rather than employee mobility, is necessary to perform the essential duties of the position.

IMPORTANT FILING INSTRUCTIONS

If interested in this position, you can reply in one of two ways:

- Forward the required documents electronically to:

PSTLABS@doh.nj.gov

- Mail the required documents to:

**Rosalind Finney, Executive Assistant 2
Public Health and Environmental Laboratories
Reference Posting #365-18
New Jersey Department of Health
PO Box 361
Trenton, NJ 08625-0361**

Required documents:

- cover letter
- resume
- completed application, found at:
<http://www.nj.gov/health/forms/dpf-663.pdf>

** Responses received after the closing date MAY be considered if the position is not filled.*

- *Newly hired employees must agree to a thorough background check that will include fingerprinting.*
- *If you are a candidate for a position in our Public Health and Environmental Laboratories, you may be subject to pre- and /or post-employment alcohol and drug testing.*
- *If you are a candidate for a position that involves direct client care in one of the State facilities/programs, you may be subject to pre- and/or post-employment drug testing/screening. The cost of any pre-employment testing will be at the candidate's expense. Candidates with a positive drug test result, or those who refuse to be tested and/or cooperate with the testing requirement, will not be hired.*
- *In compliance with federal law, all persons hired will be required to verify identity and eligibility to work in the United States and to complete the required employment eligibility verification form upon hire.*
- *In accordance with N.J.S.A. 52:14-7, the "New Jersey First Act", all employees must reside in the State of New Jersey, unless exempted under the law. If you do not live in New Jersey, you have one year after you begin employment to relocate your residence to New Jersey.*
- ***The New Jersey Department of Health is an Equal Opportunity Employer.***