SENIOR CLINICAL LABORATORY SCIENTIST I

Definition
Under general supervision to perform, analyze and interpret a variety of both routine standardized and less routinely performed laboratory procedures; to develop and maintain specialized laboratory equipment and procedures.

Distinguishing Characteristics
This is the advanced journey level classification in this classification series. Incumbents in this class are required to possess above average proficiency in laboratory testing skills. Promotion to this class is based upon management review of incumbent’s credentials and accomplishments. For promotion to this class, review will be based upon credentials and accomplishments attained and acquired at the Clinical Laboratory Scientist class level.

Typical Tasks
• Calibrates test equipment and instruments;
• Carries out and interprets existing laboratory routines, methods and procedures;
• Independently performs laboratory testing procedures and may be required to perform testing within established limits in several laboratory sections;
• Reviews quality control records to determine whether test results are accurate within prescribed limits and makes necessary adjustments;
• Regularly maintains quality control programs consistent with specific laboratory policies and procedures;
• Regularly maintains all equipment relevant to assigned area according to equipment specifications and established laboratory policies and procedures and performs emergency repair, as required;
• Assists other laboratory personnel with problems they are unable to resolve;
• Orients and trains students and new employees;
• Promotes support and assistance utilizing teamwork to promote achievement of common goals and to resolve problems;
• Prepares reagents, stains, and other test/procedure materials;
• Performs other related duties as required.

Employment Standards
Possession of a valid Clinical Laboratory Scientist, Bioanalyst, Limited Clinical Laboratory Scientist, Clinical Chemist or Clinical Microbiologist license issued by the State of California, Department of Health Services as appropriate for the area of specialization is required.

Sufficient education, training and experience to demonstrate possession of the following knowledge and abilities.

Knowledge of
• Clinical laboratory principles, procedures, and practices related to microbiological, hematology, immunology, biochemistry, toxicology, and immunohematology;
• Use, care, maintenance, repair and inventory of various laboratory equipment; instruments, and supplies;
• Normal and abnormal test results;
• Quality control methods and procedures appropriate to a clinical laboratory;
• Proper safety precautions and procedures utilized in handling all types of laboratory specimens, reagents, chemicals and hazardous waste;
• Modern training methods.

Ability to
• Independently perform standard, complex, and non-routine clinical laboratory tests, accurately and with skill;
• Collect specimens from patients with skill, patience and tact;
• Be sensitive, courteous, and responsive;
• Maintain records and prepare technical, factual reports of test results;
• Work effectively and in cooperation with other organizations, departments and personnel;
• Train all levels of laboratory personnel in technical laboratory procedures and equipment usage;
• Calibrate, troubleshoot, adjust and maintain highly sensitive laboratory equipment according to manufacturer’s specifications and established laboratory, procedures; make necessary emergency equipment repairs;
• Review the work of students and other laboratory personnel, checking for accuracy within specifications;
• Evaluate normal and abnormal test results;
• Prepare accurate written reports;
• Follow written and oral technical directions;
• Establish and maintain effective working relationships with others.

Revised and retitled (formerly Senior Clinical Laboratory Technologist I) – KB
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