

LAB HELPER/ASSISTANT OVERVIEW

LAB ASSISTANTS perform or supervise the performance of standardized and recurring technical procedures in the lab.

- May require specialized knowledge of a field, but does not require a theoretical knowledge
- Duties range from unskilled to skilled in basic science
- May include preparation of media for research activities
- Participation in the construction, assembly, testing and/or operation of lab equipment
- Preparation of tissues for microscopic examination
- Setting up research and teaching labs
- Ordering, receiving and distributing lab supplies
- Cleaning and maintenance of equipment and supplies

LAB HELPER

- Ability to read, write, perform basic mathematical calculations
- Duties might include:
 - Wash dishes
 - Clean labs
 - Prepare labels
 - Provide clean towels
 - Check and replenish supplies

LAB ASSISTANT I

- Operational-level work in a lab in a limited variety of tasks
- Requires basic lab experience and/or college-level coursework (approx 1 yr each)
- Duties might include:
 - Prepare standardized media, reagents and solutions from formulas
 - Set up simple apparatus for classroom demonstration or lab experiments
 - Prepare bacterial and viral filters
 - Make routine sugar analysis and prepare solutions

LAB ASSISTANT II

- Operational-level in a lab with more complex tasks
- Requires lab experience and/or college-level coursework (approx 2 yrs each)
- Perform standard repetitive lab/field experimental procedures that requires technical scientific knowledge/skills acquired by “lower division” college classes or experience
- Duties might include
 - Preparing samples for radiochemical analyses
 - Prepare complex reagents and media using basic ingredients
 - Preparing specimens for exam
 - Preparing smear and imprint impressions, processing * sectioning tissues
 - Preparing and stain slides
 - Dissecting lab animals exposing tissues for exam

LAB ASSISTANT III AND IV

- Typically not used. Call Compensation before using
- Requires scientific knowledge and skills which might be expected from “upper division” level or equivalent through experience, but not requiring “theoretical knowledge”
- Typical duties:
 - Collection and filing of scientific material
 - Performing animal operations, not requiring theoretical knowledge
 - Preparation of charts, graphs and/or models involving experimental data