

## Chemist Assistant – SEASONAL POSITION

Augusta , Maine , United States | Life & Physical Sciences | Full-time Apply by: May 4, 2022  
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Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Chemist Assistant – SEASONAL Opening  
Date: April 21, 2022 Closing Date: May 4, 2022 Job Class Code: 6405

Grade: 09

Salary: \$15.00 – \$16.39 / hr. Position Number: 02000-2324

### Agency information:

The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is dedicated to promoting health, safety, resilience, and opportunity for Maine people. The Department provides health and social services to approximately a third of the State's population, including children, families, older Mainers, and individuals with disabilities, mental illness, and substance use disorders. The Department also promotes public health, operates two state psychiatric hospitals, and provides oversight to health care providers.

The mission for the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention (MaineCDC), within which this position is located, is to develop and deliver services to preserve, protect, and promote the health and well-being of the citizens of Maine.

### Job duties:

This is a seasonal (six month) appointment. You will serve as a Chemist Assistant within the lead poisoning prevention program section of the Health and Environmental Testing Lab (HETL). You will be responsible for performing routine sample preparation and analytical testing procedures; examining laboratory samples; providing assistance to staff and chemists; and cleaning laboratory equipment.

### You will also:

- + Analyze soil samples from communities to determine if elevated levels of lead are present
- + Review quality assurance and analytical data
- + Conduct wipe & soil sample digestions
- + Clean equipment, work areas, and glassware
- + Prepare chemical solutions and supplies for use in the analysis of samples
- + Calculate analytical results from raw data to determine the degree of lead contamination
- + Read, index, and sort technical reports and bulletins to verify reference guide accuracy and ensuring easy information retrieval; and
- + Conducting inventories of chemical stores to ensure availability of supplies

### Minimum Qualifications:

Graduation from High School or equivalency including completion of a laboratory science course – OR – one (1) year laboratory experience.

Preferred candidates will also have:

- + Excellent oral and written communication skills
- + Knowledge and experience in chemistry or a related science
- + Experience working both independently and within a team in an analytical laboratory
- + The ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships
- + Strong computer skills, including knowledge of graphic design software

#### Application Information:

Please submit all documents or files in a PDF or Word format. For additional information about this position please contact Ed Adams, Section Supervisor at (207) 287-6433. \*To apply, please upload a resume and cover letter with your application.

\*In your cover letter, you must provide the following information:

- 1) explain what prior education and/or experience you have had doing the elements under "Job Description," above; and
- 2) explain which, if any, of the attributes under "Preferred candidates will have" section, above.

To request a paper application, please contact Ashley.Smith@Maine.gov (Ashley.Vigue@Maine.gov) .

**Benefits** No matter where you work across Maine state government, you find employees who embody our state motto—"Dirigo" or "I lead"—as they provide essential services to Mainers every day. We believe in supporting our workforce's health and wellbeing with a valuable total compensation package, including:

- + **Work-Life Balance** "Rest is essential. Take time for yourself using 13 paid holidays , 12 days of sick leave , and 3+ weeks of vacation leave annually. Vacation leave accrual increases with years of service, and overtime-exempt employees receive personal leave.
- + **Health Insurance Coverage** "The State of Maine pays 85%-100% of employee-only premiums (\$9,893.52-\$11,057.52 annual value), depending on salary. Use this chart to find the premium costs for you and your family, including the percentage of dependent coverage paid by the State.
- + **Health Insurance Premium Credit** "Participation decreases employee-only premiums by 5%. Visit the Office of Employee Health and Wellness for more information about program requirements .
- + **Dental Insurance** "The State of Maine pays 100% of employee-only dental premiums (\$350.40 annual value).
- + **Retirement Plan** "The State of Maine contributes 13.16 % of pay to the Maine Public Employees Retirement System (MainePERS), on behalf of the employee.
- + **Gym Membership Reimbursement** "Improve overall health with regular exercise and receive up to \$40 per month to offset this expense.

- + Health and Dependent Care Flexible Spending Accounts “ Set aside money pre-tax to help pay for out-of-pocket health care expenses and/or daycare expenses.
- + Public Service Student Loan Forgiveness “ The State of Maine is a qualified employer for this federal program. For more information, visit the Federal Student Aid office .
- + Living Resources Program “ Navigate challenging work and life situations with our employee assistance program.
- + Parental leave is one of the most important benefits for any working parent. All employees who are welcoming a child-including fathers and adoptive parents-receive four weeks of fully paid parental leave . Additional, unpaid leave may also be available, under the Family and Medical Leave Act (<https://www.maine.gov/bhr/state-employees/rules-policies/policy-practices-manual/Employee-Rights-and-Responsibilities-Federal>) .
- + Voluntary Deferred Compensation “ Save additional pre-tax funds for retirement in a MaineSaves 457(b) account through payroll deductions.
- + Learn about additional wellness benefits for State employees from the Office of Employee Health and Wellness (<https://www.maine.gov/bhr/oeh/>) .

Maine State Government is an Equal Opportunity employer. We celebrate diversity and are committed to creating an inclusive environment for all employees. We provide reasonable accommodations to qualified individuals with disabilities upon request.