

PHOTO LABORATORY TECHNICIAN II

This is technical work performing a variety of standardized and recurring photo laboratory processes using commonly accepted procedures and techniques. The main emphasis of the work is performing laboratory duties although some incidental creative photography may be involved. The output of the laboratory can include film negatives, positives, slides, contact prints, film diapositives, microfilm, infrared, line negatives, halftones, radiographs, mosaics or other specialized photographic materials.

Employees perform black and white or color copy camera work, manual or automated black and white film developing, limited automated color film developing, automated or manual black and white and color print processing, and enlarging or reducing prints using a variety of fairly simple to operate equipment. Work also includes laboratory clean up, assisting in the maintenance and repair of equipment, performing limited quality control or calibration of equipment, logging, filing, administrative functions and other duties as assigned.

I. DIFFICULTY OF WORK:

Complexity - Employees choose film type and make minor adjustments to camera settings and filters for copy camera work, mix chemicals for film developing and print processing, make limited adjustments on automated processors, and perform routine burning, dodging and touchup of prints. Employees may also perform limited quality control and calibration of equipment, and make standardized math calculations, scale adjustments, and filter pack corrections in print processing. Work may also include making limited adjustments on automated color film developers and choosing and adjusting filters.

Guidelines - Employees use photographic textbooks, journals, American National Standards Institute standards, National Map Accuracy Standards, professional magazines, lab procedures, and consultations with their supervisor or client as necessary. Guidelines and reference materials are detailed, specific and standardized, and when used are directly applicable to most usual work situations.

II. RESPONSIBILITY:

Accountability - Employees have little or no opportunity to directly impact on the public although some work might involve direct contact with clients. Most work performed is checked by the supervisor or client before public distribution.

Consequence of Action - An error in film developing or print processing could result in more extensive time and material losses. Larger printing projects could be re-processed in the laboratory, or film could be fairly easily replaced by clients duplicating original conditions. Employees may also photograph rare or fragile objects which require careful handling to avoid damage.

Review - Work is spot-checked while in progress and completely reviewed upon completion for quality, completeness and adherence to instructions. Technical guidance and/or client approval is readily and usually available.

III. INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATIONS:

Subject Matter - Methods, techniques, procedures and laboratory equipment are usually readily understood and commonly accepted by other laboratory personnel and by clients.

Purpose - Interpersonal contacts are generally limited to other laboratory personnel and clients and usually include the routine exchange of information, receiving, instructions and occasionally explaining results, processes or techniques.

IV. WORK ENVIRONMENT:

Nature of Working Conditions - Employees spend the majority of their time in a laboratory setting and would be subject to extended periods in a darkroom, chemical fumes and production-oriented timing sequences.

Nature and Potential of Personal Hazards - Employees are exposed to photographic chemicals, other hazards, and to accident risks when operating, adjusting or repairing automated processing equipment.

V. RECRUITMENT STANDARDS:

Knowledges, Skills, and Abilities - Working knowledge of black and white and color photography, film developing, processing, equipment and chemistry. Skill in the operation of cameras, enlargers and other photographic equipment. Ability to perform and record standardized photographic laboratory procedures. Ability to perceive contrast, colors and depth of field normally. Ability to understand and follow oral and written technical instructions. Ability to perform basic mathematical calculations.

Minimum Training and Experience Requirements - Graduation from high school and one,, year relate experience in general photographic or darkroom procedures; or an equivalent combination of training and experience.