



MARICOPA COUNTY
invites applications for the position of:
**Vector Control Lab
Technician**

An Equal Opportunity Employer

OPENING DATE: 08/22/18

CLOSING DATE: 08/27/18 11:59 PM

DEPARTMENT: Environmental Services

JOB TYPE: Unclassified/Full-Time

LOCATION: Phoenix, Arizona

SALARY: \$14.04 - \$23.00 Hourly

POSITION OVERVIEW:

The Vector Control Lab Technician assists in enforcing the vector control regulations of the Maricopa County Environmental Health Code to protect the health and safety of Maricopa County residents.

POSITION QUALIFICATIONS:

Minimum education and/or experience:

High school diploma or GED and one (1) year of experience as a Laboratory Aide with relevant vectors. Post-secondary education in Biology, Medical Technology, Microbiology, Chemistry or a closely related field may substitute for the experience requirement on a year for year basis.

Specialized training, certifications, and/or other special requirements:

A valid certification from State of Arizona Office of Pest Management license as a Certified Applicator within 90 days of hire. Must possess and maintain or have the ability to obtain and maintain a valid Arizona Driver's license prior to employment.

Knowledge, skills, and abilities:

Knowledge of:

- Ecology and taxonomy of mosquitoes, rodents, flies, and other regional vectors.
- Vector surveillance and control equipment, materials, and techniques.
- Database management and statistical techniques.
- Polymerase chain reaction equipment and procedures for testing mosquito samples for the presence of vector diseases.

Skill in:

- Developing oral and written technical reports.
- Developing and delivering technical information in scientific forums and journals.
- Communicating both orally and/or verbally with the scientific community regarding the technical nature of this position.

Ability to:

- Work a flexible schedule.

- Work with local media regarding questions about our mosquito control and testing protocols.
- Conduct video interviews with minimal advance notification and preparation time.

Preferred education and/or experience:

Bachelor's degree in Entomology or related Biological Science, or Public Health field. Experience with polymerase chain reaction equipment and procedures for testing mosquito samples for the presence of vector diseases. Two (2) or more years of experience in a vector control laboratory with relevant vectors.

Preferred training, certifications and/or other special requirements:

National Institutes of Health (NIH) laboratory safety training courses.

Working conditions:

Must be able to work in an office environment which requires computer work, attention to detail, and repetitive motion; may also be exposed to outdoor climate conditions that are sometimes wet, unsanitary, and hot. Protective clothing (i.e. hard hat, steel toes shoes) is necessary in some environments. May be required to load chemical containers and equipment, weighing up to 50 pounds, onto vehicles. Must be able to lift 50 pounds floor to waist. Must be able to lift 25 pounds waist to shoulder and overhead and carry a distance of 50 feet. In addition, must be able to push/pull 50 pounds a distance of 50 feet. May be required to drive a vehicle during the hours of midnight to 5:00 am while applying treatments during efficacy testing of adult mosquito samples. May also be required to work early evening hours beginning at dusk while conducting field trials.

ESSENTIAL JOB TASKS:

- Provides laboratory support for the Vector Control Division laboratory, including the preparation of lab specimens for polymerase chain reaction (PCR) testing for the presence of vector borne diseases such as West Nile virus, St. Louis encephalitis, Western Equine encephalitis, Dengue fever and others.
- Operates laboratory (PCR) equipment; and other lab equipment ensures specimen integrity by adhering to the laboratory's procedures for specimen handling and processing; analyzing, reviewing, and reporting abnormalities, test and quality control results.
- Enters all laboratory data into the database accurately.
- Maintains laboratory equipment.
- Cleans and maintains a sterile (PCR) laboratory testing environment.
- Assists in maintaining mosquito colonies for efficacy testing of larvicides and adulticides.
- Assists with field efficacy testing of various adulticide and larvicide chemicals used by Vector Control staff.

SELECTION PROCEDURE:

The hiring authority will select the successful candidate based on departmental needs.

All offers of employment made to new hires and rehires at Maricopa County are contingent upon successful completion of a post-offer, pre-employment thorough background investigation. A background investigation is conducted on a current employee who changes to a Safety Sensitive Position or one having the potential for serious adverse impact on the integrity or efficiency of the County. These requirements do not pertain to employees of elected officials who undergo background investigation processes administered through their respective offices.

Typically successful candidates are hired at a salary rate, up to midpoint of the range, based on applicable experience, internal equity and budgetary allowances.