



United States Department of the Interior
U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

TEMPORARY RECRUITMENT BULLETIN

Announcement Number	UMESC-2021-02	Who May Apply	United States Citizens
Position Title	Biological Science Technician (Field Assistant)	Hiring Agency	INTERIOR, Geological Survey
Open Period	3/15/21 – 3/29/2021	Duty Locations	Few vacancies in La Crosse, WI
Series/Grade	GG-0404-05	For More Info	Name: Nicholas Andros Email: nandros@usgs.gov Phone: 608-406-7130 Fax: 608-783-6066
Salary	\$16.90 – \$21.97 Per Hour	Promotion Potential	GG-0404-05

Duration of Appointment: This is a temporary excepted service position not-to-exceed 1 year but may be extended up to a maximum of 2 years without further competition. Employment may not exceed 180 working days in a service year. All qualified applicants, with or without Federal status, may apply and be considered. Appointment to this position, however, will not convey permanent status in the Federal service.

Work Schedule: Full-Time

Travel Required: Position may require up to 15 nights of travel per month.

Relocation: Relocation expenses will not be paid.

Why Is It Great To Work For The USGS?

Embark on an exciting future! From the peaks of the highest mountains to the depths of the deepest seas, the U.S. Geological Survey has career opportunities that make a difference in both the lives of others and in the environment. Would you like to join the more than 10,000 scientists, technicians, and support staff of the USGS who are working in more than 400 locations throughout the United States? Apply today! As the Nation's largest water, earth, and biological science and civilian mapping agency, the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) collects, monitors, analyzes, and provides scientific understanding about natural resource conditions, issues, and problems. The diversity of our scientific expertise enables us to carry out large-scale,

multi-disciplinary investigations and provide impartial, timely, and relevant scientific information to resource managers, planners, and other customers related to: the health of our ecosystems and environment; natural hazards that threaten us; natural resources we rely on, and; the impact of climate and land-use changes. For more information about the USGS please visit <http://www.usgs.gov>.

What General Information Do I Need To Know About This Position?

Salary: \$16.90 Per Hour (Step 01) to \$21.97 Per Hour (Step 10).

NOTE: First time hires to the Federal Government are typically hired at the Step 01.

Key Requirements

- Applicants must be U.S. Citizens.
- Suitable for Federal employment, as determined by background investigation.
- A valid state driver's license and safe driving record are required.
- Completion of a pre-employment medical examination Federal expense.
- More requirements are listed under Qualifications and Other Information.

Major Duties

As a Biological Science Technician (Field Assistant) with the U.S. Geological Survey, Upper Midwest Environmental Sciences Center, some of your specific duties will include:

- Collect biological, botany, fisheries, or wildlife data from study files or monitoring stations.
- Perform laboratory analysis of biological samples to determine specified chemical, biological, or physical characteristics.
- Operate a government motor vehicle or a boat as an incidental driver.

Physical Demands: Work is physically demanding and includes walking, bending, climbing, and lifting of equipment up to 100 pounds when in the field, sometimes during adverse conditions.

Work Environment: The work is performed in a laboratory or field environment. Field work involves moderate or sometimes extreme exposure to the discomforts of rain, cold/hot weather, rapidly running or icy streams and rivers. Special safety precautions are required in many cases, and the employee may typically wear life jackets, special safety boots, waders, and special organism handling gear. If selected, you will be required to complete a pre-employment physical.

Education

If this position requires specific educational course work to qualify, or you are qualifying based in whole or part on education, you are required to provide all unofficial transcripts (undergraduate, graduate, etc.) or list of course work, which includes semester hours earned and grade received, by the closing date of this announcement or you will be disqualified from further consideration. This proof may be faxed or emailed to the point of contact listed in this bulletin. Please ensure that all documentation is legible.

Education completed in colleges or universities outside the United States may be used to meet the above requirements. You must provide acceptable documentation that the foreign education is comparable to that received in an accredited educational institution in the United States. For more information on how foreign education is evaluated, visit:
<http://www.usgs.gov/ohr/oars/quals/foreign.html>.

Are There Any Special Requirements For This Position?

--A background investigation will be required for this position. Continued employment will be subject to the applicant's successful completion of a background security investigation and favorable adjudication. Failure to successfully meet these requirements will be grounds for termination.

--Applicants for this position must meet the following requirements: (1) possession of a valid State driver's license, and (2) possess a safe driving record. If selected, you will be required to provide proof of a valid State License and a copy of your driving record.

Applications must be postmarked and mailed, email, or faxed by 3/29/21 to:

Mr. Nicholas Andros

U.S. Geological Survey

2630 Fanta Reed Road

La Crosse, Wisconsin

nandros@usgs.gov

Telephone: 608-406-7130

Fax: 608-783-6066

Evaluations

Basis of Rating: Applicants will not be rated or ranked. All applicants that meet the basic eligibility and qualification requirements of the position will be referred to the selecting official in preference eligible order.

Qualifications

In order to qualify at the GG-05 level, you must meet one of the following:

--Nine months of field survey party experience. Field party experience includes activities associated with collecting and recording biological samples for laboratory analysis, applying accepted data collection techniques and methods in the performance of field work in support of scientific investigations, and using a variety of surveying instruments and electronic or mechanical instrumentation in the making and recording of field measurements and observations designed to collect data for biological science investigations. Only time actually spent in the field can be credited when qualifying individuals under the field experience option.

--OR Two years of sub-professional experience. Sub-professional experience is defined as technical work performed in support of field or laboratory investigations related to the biological sciences or closely related disciplines which provided basic knowledge or skills in gathering, recording, and assembling scientific or engineering data; using scientific instruments to measure angles, degrees weights, strength intensities, etc.; setting up and operating test apparatus, and manipulating quantitative data. Experience may include assisting professional employees with duties such as calibrating and operating measuring instruments, mixing solutions, making chemical analyses, setting up and operating test apparatus, and compiling and processing scientific data. Experience as a laboratory mechanic or in a trade or craft may be credited as experience when the work was performed in close association with biological scientists or other technical personnel and provided a good working knowledge of appropriate scientific principles, methods, and techniques.

--OR Three years of college study (equivalent 90 semester/135 quarter hours) plus 3 months of lab or field work experience. Satisfactory completion of a field course of study may be substituted for the 3 months of field and/or laboratory experience.

You must meet all qualifications and eligibility requirements for the position by the closing date of the announcement.

How to Apply

Resumes for this vacancy must be submitted to the point of contact listed above via fax, mail, email, or in person BEFORE midnight Eastern Standard Time on the closing date of this announcement. If you fail to submit a complete application, you will not be considered for this position.

Required Documents

--If you are claiming veterans' preference you must submit a copy of your DD-214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty, by the closing date of this announcement. If you are currently on active military duty, you must provide documentation (e.g., campaign document, award citation, etc.), that verifies entitlement to veterans preference and that your character of military service is honorable. If you are claiming 10-point veterans' preference, in addition to the DD-214, you must submit documentation that supports your claim (e.g., an official statement from the Department of Veterans Affairs or from a branch of the Armed Forces certifying the existence of a service-connected disability; or receipt of a Purple Heart). **If you fail to submit any of the required documentation, you will not be granted veterans preference.** Additional information on veterans' preference can be found in the [VetGuide](#).

--Required documents may be faxed, emailed, mailed, or drop off in person to the point of contact listed above.

Benefits

Temporary appointees expected to work at least 130 hours per month for at least 90 days will be eligible to enroll in a [Federal Employee Health Benefits \(FEHB\)](#) plan. Individuals eligible under this rule receive the full government contribution to their premiums regardless of work schedule and will also be eligible to participate in the [Flexible Spending Accounts](#) and [Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program](#). Temporary appointees are not covered by the Federal Employee Retirement System and are ineligible for Federal life, dental, or vision insurance.

Other Information

--Applicants who include vulgar, offensive, or inappropriate language or information in their application package will be ineligible for further consideration for this position.

--Under Executive Order 11935, only United States citizens and nationals (residents of American Samoa and Swains Island) may compete for civil service jobs. Agencies are permitted to hire non-citizens only in very limited circumstances where there are no qualified citizens available for the position.

--DOI uses E-Verify to confirm the employment eligibility of all newly hired employees. To learn more about E-Verify, including your rights and responsibilities, please visit www.dhs.gov/E-Verify.

--USGS employees are subject to Title 43, USC Section 31(a) and may not: (a) have any personal, private, direct or indirect interest in lands or mineral wealth of lands under survey; (b) have any substantial personal, private, direct or indirect interests in any private mining or mineral enterprise doing business with the United States; or (c) execute surveys or examinations for private parties or corporations.

--The application contains information subject to the Privacy Act (P.L. 93-579, 5 USC 552a). The information is used to determine qualifications for employment, and is authorized under Title 5, USC, Section 3302 and 3361.

--The United States Government does not discriminate in employment on the basis of race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy and gender identity), national origin, political affiliation, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, genetic information, age, membership in an employee organization, retaliation, parental status, military service, or other non-merit factor.

-- Federal agencies must provide reasonable accommodation to applicants with disabilities where appropriate. Applicants requiring reasonable accommodation for any part of the application and hiring process should contact the hiring agency directly. Determinations on requests for reasonable accommodation will be made on a case-by-case basis.

--If you misrepresent your experience or education, or provide false or fraudulent information in or with your application, it may be grounds for not hiring you or for firing you after you begin work. Making false or fraudulent statements also may be punishable by fine or imprisonment.

-- If you are a male applicant born after December 31, 1959, you must certify that you have registered with the Selective Service System, or are exempt from having to do so under the Selective Service Law.