THE Ames Laboratory
Creating Materials & Energy Solutions
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Ames Laboratory

Professional and Scientific Level Description

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JOB TITLE: Assistant Scientist III **GRADE:** 35

JOB SUMMARY: The Assistant Scientist III provides advanced level technical support to one or more research groups. The individual collaborates with supervisor in planning research activities, trains other group members on lab methods, supervises daily operation of technical personnel and laboratory facilities, and conducts investigations and experiments. The Assistant Scientist III works under limited supervision and monitors expenditures of funds and recommends purchase of major equipment for research projects.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES: Conducts investigations, experiments, and tests to produce new scientific data and mathematical models. Develops methods to test concepts and establishes criteria for measurements and predictions. Contributes original ideas to the program to modify and improve existing procedures. Develops major experimental designs, methods, techniques, instrumentation, and devices for research projects. Designs computer applications and develops computer software. Plans project details on the basis of precedents established in related projects. Trains students on laboratory methods and research techniques. Supervises daily operations of technical personnel and laboratory operations. May supervise Assistant Scientists. Co-authors manuscripts for publication and presentation. Presents scientific data at professional meetings. Drafts proposals to government agencies to procure funds in conjunction with other principal investigators. Acts as subject matter expert or technical consultant for processes and procedures used in research. Writes comprehensive progress reports to sponsoring agencies. Maintains familiarity with relevant current literature and methodologies.

EDUCATION/EXPERIENCE: B. S. degree in physical science or engineering plus five years of experience, or M.S. degree plus three years, or Ph.D. (with concurrent research experience).

KNOWLEDGE, ABILITIES AND SKILLS: Broad knowledge of basic theories, principles, concepts and methodologies. Advanced knowledge of research processes and procedures relevant to own research projects.

EXTRAORDINARY WORKING CONDITIONS: May work in a laboratory environment with chemicals and /or equipment. May require work at irregular hours to complete experimental procedures. May require travel for professional conferences or professional development activities.

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