Pitt HR

Research Scientist

Job Classification

Research Scientist (Core Facility Track)	Research Scientist (Lab Track)

Pay Grade

10	10

Education/Experience Requirements

Doctoral Degree (or professional degree with license, such as PE) required with three years of post-graduate research experience in relevant field of study	Doctoral Degree (or professional degree with license, such as PE) required with three years of post-graduate research experience in relevant field of study

Common Activities

Serves as consultant to principal investigators in the conduct of scientific research projects conducted, in part, in a core facility or large program effort that are of major significance to the growth of University research	Conducts research, potentially on several projects, in a principal investigator's laboratory that utilize the specialized expertise and general training of the incumbent
Develops new and/or revised research methodologies and approaches to accomplish research	Serves as consultant to member of the laboratory and to collaborators in the conduct of scientific research projects that require the incumbent's specialized expertise
Designs, develops, tests, and implements equipment, instruments, or experimental protocols for research (including hardware, software, statistical methods, etc.) in a facility	Collaborates on conceptual project design, determines details of the experimental process and data analysis methodology for several projects being conducted in the laboratory
Functions as an active collaborator in scientific research	May be the lead investigator on a specific project or on a specific component of a larger project
Manages and maintains facilities and coordinates use of all instruments in the facility to maximize availability for all projects conducted in that facility	May design, develop, and test new equipment, instruments, or experimental protocols for research (including, hardware, software, statistical methods, etc.)
Manages and maintains facilities and coordinates use of all instruments in the facility to maximize availability for all projects conducted in that facility	Functions as an active collaborator in scientific research, as requested by principal investigator
	May participate in the preparation of writing of scientific research papers and manuscripts for publication and lecture

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Organizational Impact

The results of actions and decisions may have a significant impact on important elements of the University's research portfolio.	Results of actions have a significant impact on the quality, efficacy, validity, and efficiency of the group's research which may impact University research priorities.

Problem Solving

This job requires resolution of competing demands/requirements of several principal investigators so as to maximize scientific progress.	The job requires adapting specific specialized techniques to specific scientific inquiries. Decisions as to when and how to do so are critical.

Supervision

In consultation with the facility's Scientific Director, selection and hiring, staff development, work planning, performance management and responsibility for initiating various personnel actions for exempt and non-exempt employees (including those in the Research Job Family).	Will be responsible for teaching other members of the laboratory new skills, as based on specialized expertise. May be responsible for supervising use of specialized equipment or performing specialized techniques.

Contact Level

Interacts with various levels within or outside the University including Principal Investigators and their collaborators, Directors, and Department Heads. This interaction may include interpreting and explaining ideas and concepts as well as solving problems and coordinating projects and budgets.	Interacts with all laboratory members and collaborators, explaining new procedures and concepts; engages in problem-solving discussions.

Financial Budget

This job will have a significant impact on facility revenue which dependent upon both the efficiency of use of the instrumentation and the level at which technologies are kept up-to-date. Revenue is generated by grants funded to use, in part, facility resources; acquiring such funding requires that the facility have a reputation for high-quality service. Position will be involved in certain areas of financial management, as determined by the facility manager's supervisor (e.g., department chair or director, Health Sciences Core Research Facilities).	This job will have a significant impact on revenue. Revenue may be generated by the innovation of the research conducted by the position, which would have a financial impact on the University. Position may be involved in certain areas of financial management but may or may not be directly responsible for the department budget. The job will have significant impact on expenditure of grant dollars. Ineffective or inappropriate research will waste research monies and may lead to inability to renew grant funding.