

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST
GS-0301-07

I. INTRODUCTION

This position is located in the U. S. Department of Labor (DOL), Employment and Training Administration (ETA). ETA provides Federal grants and technical assistance to State and local entities which provide workforce development services to various adult and youth populations. This advanced entry-level position performs rotational workforce development assignments to increase knowledge and understanding of related and interrelated programs as preparation for a front-line position in an ETA core occupational specialty.

II. MAJOR DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Duties include a combination of assignments from some or all of the following functional areas which will support the ETA component to which assigned and fully prepare the incumbent for permanent assignment.

Contracts and Grant Administration

Assists with portions of the contract or grant cycle (*e.g.*, assisting with requests for proposals, review of proposals, awarding of contracts or grants, contract or grant modifications, monitoring, closeout). Develops recommendations for funding or modifying grants and contracts and discusses this with higher grade staff or team leader/managers for consideration. Reviews fiscal and program reports and analyzes data from them, developing recommendations which are then shared with higher grade staff prior to being passed on to contractors and grantees. May perform entry level GOTR or co-GOTR tasks for grants assigned to the unit or office.

Technical Assistance/Consultative Services

Assists in developing or providing training to partners; helps to identify communicate and share best practices; assists in the development of technical manuals, handbooks, desk aids, presentation materials, policy memos, and other guidance; responds to inquiries from customers, partners, Congressional offices, etc.; participates in issue-focused meetings and conferences on wide variety of topics, occasionally representing DOL; helps team members to ensure compliance with Federal law, regulations and policy.

Investigation and Audit

Assists with investigations and resolutions of complaints; helps team members audit costs and payments; assists with recovery of disallowances; assists with closeout activities to ensure accountability for organizational resources.

Coordination, Facilitation and Marketing

Interacts with people and organizations within and outside ETA and DOL to learn to establish good customer relations and partnerships; interprets Federal guidelines to provide sound, precise, and concise information; utilizes the electronic bulletin board and the Internet to collect, analyze, and disseminate information as requested; assists with arranging and participating in roundtables, fora, and peer-to-peer meetings.

Research and Analysis

Collects, organizes, analyzes, and reports data or findings to assist in improving the agency and the operation of its programs. Assignments may relate to monitoring, best practices, pilot and demonstration projects, program performance data, and other specific areas of ETA program operations. Provides input into GPRA and other performance related plans and reports and develops suggestions on possible corrective action.

Policy Development

Assists with identification of issues to be addressed by policy; assists with drafts of position papers and other correspondence; helps to formulate budget information and requests. Reviews and comments on draft policy papers and other documents and reviews/comments on draft policies prepared by other offices.

Infrastructure and Support Systems

Assists with the design, maintenance, and/or use of various information, communication and support systems both within and outside ETA: electronic mail, Internet home pages, data bases, reporting systems, electronic bulletin boards, financial and personnel management systems, administrative services, profiling systems, labor market information systems, and one-stop service delivery system.

Performance Management and Accountability

Supports ETA's mission to ensure that grantees meet program performance requirements and provide the highest level of service to customers. Assists with the identification, development and maintenance of performance standards and supports program improvement by helping to identify and refine program outcomes. Develops suggested recommendations for consideration by higher grade staff or managers.

III. FACTORS

Factor 1 – Knowledge Required by the Position

FL 1-6

950 pts.

Basic knowledge of the agency's program structure and the employment and training delivery system to perform recurring assignments in one or more organizational components.

Ability to communicate effectively verbally and in writing to convey information in a clear, succinct, and organized manner in order to make clear and convincing oral and written presentations. Ability to relate well to people inside and outside the organization and to operate in a team environment. Ability to

adapt and work effectively with a variety of situations, individuals, or groups; to understand and appreciate different and opposing perspectives; to rise to the challenge of unfamiliar tasks; and to adapt approaches to the requirements of a situation change.

Ability to assess and weigh information in a logical and analytical manner to identify trends and relationships among issues, to weigh options critically through use of a variety of information sources and to provide written or verbal rationale and results of analysis.

Skill in using a personal computer, and associated software and hardware in a LAN environment to produce documents, charts, and graphics, to send and receive electronic mail, to use database applications, and to research and communicate via Internet.

Factor 2 – Supervisory Controls FL 2-2 125 pts.

The supervisor, team leader, or a senior specialist identifies general project outlines and the work results desired, determines the methods and procedures to be employed, and provides specific instructions for new, difficult, and unusual assignments. The incumbent performs recurring assignments independently and seeks guidance from the supervisor for unusual assignments. Completed work is reviewed for technical accuracy and conformance with overall policy. The supervisor may develop a performance management plan identifying office specific duties for the incumbent to perform.

Factor 3 – Guidelines FL 3-2 125 pts.

A number of guidelines, administrative policies, Federal regulations, and directives are used to complete assignments. Judgment is used in locating and applying the provisions of the guidelines to assignments. Significant deviations are reviewed by the supervisor.

Factor 4 – Complexity FL 4-2 75 pts.

The work is a variety of related tasks with some limited divergence from set methodology, and is generally in a planned sequence to develop potential for a higher level of work. Actions taken, or recommendations made fall within areas with fairly well-defined choices, and are generally straightforward and factual. Handles increasingly numerous tasks, setting priorities among them.

Factor 5 – Scope and Effect FL 5-2 75 pts.

The purpose of the work is to assist and provide support to higher-level specialists. The work performed by the incumbent comprises a part of much broader projects being performed and affects the accuracy of the services to recipients of ETA products.

Factors 6/7 – Personal Contacts/Purpose of Contacts Level 2.a. 45 pts.

Contacts are with employees, supervisors, and managers in the agency but outside the immediate organization, including representatives from other DOL offices, and customers served by the ETA organizational component. Contacts are to obtain, clarify or give facts or information. The information may range from easily understood to highly technical. Incumbent learns to work increasingly in teams of many kinds both “actual” and “virtual.”

Factor 8 – Physical Demands FL 8-1 5 pts.

The work is sedentary, although some slight physical effort may be required.

Factor 9 – Work Environment FL 9-1 5 pts.

The work is performed in an adequately lighted and climate controlled office. Occasional travel by any means of government or public transportation may be required.

TOTAL = 1405 pts.

IV. UNIQUE POSITION RESPONSIBILITIES

The assignment will be to one of the following organizations or their subdivisions, including:

- Office of Youth Services (OYS)
- Office of Adult Services (OAS)
- Office of Apprenticeship Training, Employer and Labor Services (ATELS)
- Office of Workforce Security (OWS)