U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Harry L. Hopkins, Secretary

NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS

LYMAN J. BRIGGS, Director

WASHINGTON

SCIENTIFIC

AND

TECHNICAL POSITIONS

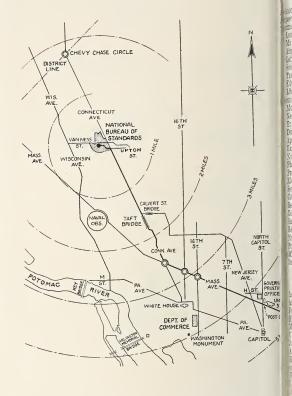
IN THE

NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS

Miscellaneous Publication M163 (Supersedes M152)



(The National Bureau of Standards is charged by law with the development, construction, custody, and maintenance of reference and working standards and their intercomparison, improvement, and application in science, engineering, industry, and commerce.



CIE

NA

SIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL POSITIONS in the

NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS 1

CONTENTS

Page

Asions and Sections of Bureau	4
cpose of this circular	5
ormation concerning Bureau	5
Location of Rureau	5
Map showing location of Bureau 10)-11
Airplane view of Bureau 10)-11
Laboratory facilitiesScientific and technical work	9
Scientific and technical work	5
Training in the Bureau	6
Training in the Bureau	6
Library facilities.	6
Library facilitiesormation regarding appointments	7
Mode of entrance	7
Needs of the service	7
Entrance salary	7
Duties	7
Application	7
Evamination	8
Notice of examination	8
Physical examination	8
	8
Members of family already in Government	9
Senior students	9
Senior students Citizenship and sex	9
Residence	9
Residence	9
Summer appointment	12
Summer appointment. Research associate positions. Nontechnical positions.	12
Nontachnical positions	12
Probationary period	13
alifications required for entrance	13
alifications required for entrance Junior professional grade	13
Physicist	13
Chemist	13
Engineer	13
Assistant professional grade	14
Associate professional grade	14
Full professional grade	14
Full professional grade. Higher professional grades. Minor subprofessional grade.	15
Minor subprofessional grade	15
Under subprofessional grade	15
Innier subprofessional grade	15
Junior subprofessional grade Assistant subprofessional grade Higher subprofessional grades	16
Higher subprofessional grades	16
migner supprofessional grades	16
neral information	
Working hours	16 16
Leave of absence	
Advancement	17
Retirement	17
Specimen examination papers. Transportation to new appointees.	17
Welfers	17
Welfare	17
Recreation	17
Cost of living in Washington	18
Salary ranges	18

¹ Prepared by William C. Fewell, Personnel Officer.

DIVISIONS AND SECTIONS OF BUREAU

Electricity

Resistance Measurements Inductance and Capacitance Electrical Instruments Magnetic Measurements Photometry Radio Underground Corrosion Electrochemistry Telephone Standards

Weights and Measures

Length Mass Time Capacity and Density Gas Measuring Instruments Thermal Expansivity, Den-tal Research, and Identification Weights and Measures Laws and Administration Large-Capacity Scale Test-Limit Gages

Heat and Power

Thermometry Pyrometry Heat Measurements Heat Transfer Cryogenics Fire Resistance Automotive Power Plants Liquid Lubrication and Fuels Aviation Engines and Accessories

Optics

Spectroscopy Polarimetry Colorimetry and Spectrophotometry Optical Instruments Radiometry Atomic Physics, Radium, and X-Rays Photographic Technology Interferometry

Chemistry

Paints, Varnishes, and Bitu-minous Materials Detergents, Cements, Corrosion, Etc. Organic Chemistry Metal and Ore Analysis, and Standard Samples

Chemistry—Continu

Platin Reagents and Metals Electrochemistry (Platin Gas Chemistry Physical Chemistry Thermochemistry and C stitution of Petroleum

W

M

Mechanics and Sou

Engineering Instrumer Mechanical and Ap ances Sound Aeronautic Instruments Aerodynamics Engineering Mechanics Hydraulics

Organic and Fibro Materials

Rubber Textiles Paper Leather Testing and Specification Fiber Structure Organic Plastics

Metallurgy

Optical Metallurgy Thermal Metallurgy Mechanical Metallurgy Chemical Metallurgy Experimental Foundry

Clay 1 and Silica Products

Whiteware Glass Refractories Enameled Metals Heavy Clay Products Cement and Concreting I terials Masonry Construction Lime and Gypsum Stone

Simplified Practice

Wood, Textiles, and Par Metal Products and C struction Materials Containers and Miscelle ous Products Materials Handling Equiment and Ceramics

DIVISIONS AND SECTIONS OF BUREAU-Continued

rade Standards

Wood, Wood Products, Paper, Leather, and Rubber Metal Products Textiles Apparel

Petroleum, Chemical, and Miscellaneous Products

odes and Specifications

Safety Codes
Building Codes
Building Practice and Specifications
Producer Contacts and Cer-

tification Consumer Contacts and Labeling

ffice

Finance Personnel Purchase and Stores

Office-Continued

Property and Transportation
Mail and Files
Library
Information
Editorial

Shops

Design and Drafting Instrument Woodworking Glassblowing Shop Tools and Equipment Materials and Supplies

Operation of Plant

Power Plant Electrical Piping Grounds Construction Guard Janitorial

PURPOSE OF THIS CIRCULAR

The National Bureau of Standards desires to keep touch with men and women who are well qualified fill positions on its scientific staff. The aim of is circular is to answer queries received in the ally mail and give general information to prospected applicants who are interested in the scientific and technical work of the Bureau.

INFORMATION CONCERNING BUREAU

ocation of Bureau.

The Bureau's location is pleasant, about 3½ miles om the center of Washington, at Connecticut venue and Upton Street. The Bureau comprises group of laboratory buildings on a 56-acre site, rranged like a university, situated on a natural hill.

aboratory Facilities.

The Bureau's facilities make it one of the bestquipped physical laboratories in the world for arrying on scientific research.

cientific and Technical Work.

The work of the Bureau includes many branches f physics, chemistry, and engineering, such as aechanics, heat, optics, electricity, sound, metrology, netallurgy, radio, electronics, thermodynamics,

aerodynamics, engineering (aeronautical, auton tive, electrical, gas, hydraulic, mechanical, stri tural), also industrial technology (ceramics, leath paper, petroleum, rubber, and textiles), includi research and standardization, and offers valual experience in these professions, combining as it do theoretical, experimental, and practical work.

Training in the Bureau.

The Bureau affords an excellent opportunity training in scientific work, and its close connecti-with the industries makes Bureau experience va-able in industrial research. Many employees ha found a Bureau position the stepping stone to so more highly remunerative one outside. Others we have remained in the service have been reward with steady advancement. It is generally rece nized that the Government scientific and technic service is an excellent postgraduate training ground and outside interests are ever on the alert to secu successful Government research workers.

y

Educational Opportunities.

Educational opportunities are afforded by weekly meetings of the Bureau staff, meetings of various divisions and sections, cooperative po graduate study courses in physics, chemistry, matlet matics, etc., conducted by members of the staff a others outside of official hours, special lectures visiting scientists, and meetings of national societical The advanced courses at the Bureau are accepted several universities as credits toward a higher deg when combined with a moderate amount of ad tional work taken in residence at the univers selected. In some cases facilities can be provided the Bureau for carrying out an experimental resear which can be used for a thesis. Junior assistant are offered the opportunity of continuing the In fact, e college work at local universities. ployees appointed to positions in the subprof sional service are expected to prepare themselves suitable education in some branch of the Burea work for the broader field represented in position of higher grades. The university courses are large arranged to suit the convenience of persons in to Government service, and classes in most subjection are given in the late afternoon or evening.

Library Facilities.

The National Bureau of Standards has a high specialized scientific library of 45,000 volung d free use of the other scientific collections in ashington.

INFORMATION REGARDING APPOINTMENTS

Inde of Entrance.

All positions on the staff of the National Bureau Standards are subject to the competitive requirents of the civil-service rules and regulations. If the candidates can be considered who have seed appropriate examinations and who are ceried by the United States Civil Service Commismanong the three highest eligibles on the register, who have eligibility for transfer or reinstatement.

eds of the Service.

For original appointment the demand is always uch greater for junior assistants than for the gher grades, principally because, wherever posle, vacancies in the higher grades are filled rough promotion. The Bureau staff comprises proximately 930 professional, subprofessional, elerd, administrative, fiscal, and custodial positions, aturally, in a force of this size, vacancies often cur. The staff is also gradually increasing, so at there is frequent opportunity for the employent of young college men and women in scientific ork.

ntrance Salary.

All appointments are made at the entrance salary the grade for which eligibles have qualified rough civil-service examination.

uties.

No definite statement can be made as to the pecific nature of the duties of a particular grade or sition prior to offer of appointment. The duties e usually in connection with original investigations or testing in some field of the Bureau's work. This experimental testing usually forms the major art of the early work of new appointees in the unior grades, opportunites for research are afforded.

pplication.

Formal applications for examination in any of the everal grades cannot be accepted until after an xamination has been announced. Application is adde on standard prescribed forms issued by the Jnited States Civil Service Commission.

Examination.

Examinations for positions in the lower grades are held occasionally throughout the country in practically every city of considerable size. Examinations for the higher grades are held from time to time as the needs of the service require. Applicants for the junior and assistant professional and subprofessional positions are required to report for a written examination. Applicants for positions of higher grade are not required to report for a written examination but are rated on their education, training, experience, writings (publications, reports, or thesis), and corroborative evidence.

Notice of Examination.

Persons who desire to be notified of the announcement of an examination for a position of any grade or in any specialty in the National Bureau of Standards may place their names on file for the purpose with the United States Civil Service Commission or the National Bureau of Standards, Washington, D. C.

Announcements giving full information regarding the requirements, places of examination, etc., will be mailed to interested persons approximately one month in advance of the examination dates.

Physical Examination.

In view of the benefits granted employees under employees' compensation and retirement legislation, persons appointed will be required to pass a physical examination by a physician in the Federal service before entering on duty. They must have such health and freedom from physical defects as will enable them to meet the physical standard which the Civil Service Commission deems necessary to perform the duties of the position.

Proof of Date of Birth.

Applicants who attain eligibility and are selected for appointment must furnish proof of date of birth to the appointing officer at the time of reporting for duty.

Members of Family Already in Government.

Where there are already two members of a single family (living under the same roof) in the service of the District of Columbia or the United States, additional members of that family will not be appointed.

Senior Students.

Applications will be accepted from senior students in college and high school when an examination is announced, subject to their furnishing proof of actual graduation before entering on duty in case appointment is made.

Citizenship and Sex.

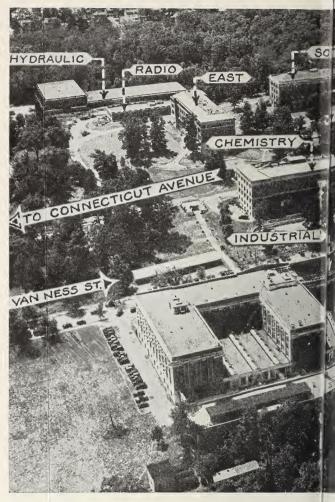
All citizens of the United States, both men and women, who meet the requirements may enter these examinations; appointing officers, however, have the legal right to specify the sex desired in requesting certification of eligibles.

Residence.

To be eligible for permanent appointment to the apportioned service in Washington, D. C., applicants must show legal or voting residence for at least one year next preceding the closing date for receipt of applications, in the State or Territory claimed. Practically all positions on the Bureau staff are in the District of Columbia and are, therefore, subject to the above residence requirement.

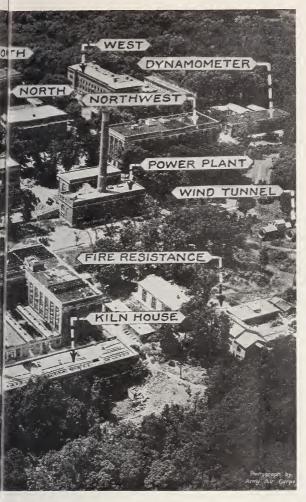
Temporary Appointment.

Temporary appointments are also made through civil-service examination and certification; that is, if there are eligibles on civil-service registers who are willing to accept temporary appointment, they must be given first opportunity for such positions. Temporary appointment of others may be authorized by the United States Civil Service Commission in the event that there are no eligibles available for certification from existing lists, pending the announcement of an examination and the establishment of a new register of eligibles. There is, however, usually a surplus of civil-service eligibles available for certification, and there is seldom opportunity for such temporary appointment of others except in positions requiring highly specialized training and experience.



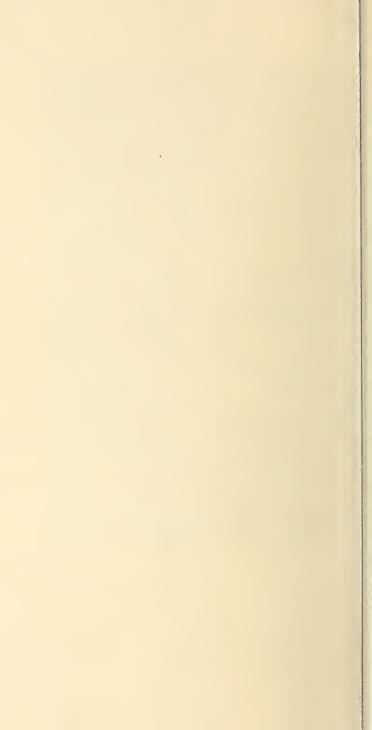
Airplane view of the Na nal I [Looking uth]

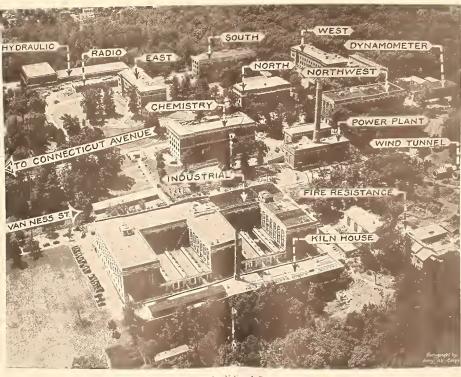
The names of the principal buildings are shown. The main entrance to the restrictions a trip through the laboratories starts at 1:45 p. m. from home to



nal Bureau of Standards. 1th.]

reau's grounds is on Connecticut Avenue, to the left of this picture. For m 300, South Building, shown near the top center.





Airplane view of the National Bureau of Standards. [Looking south.]

The names of the principal buildings are shown. The main entrance to the Bureau's grounds is on Connecticut Avenue, to the left of this picture. For visitors a trip through the laboratories starts at 1:45 p. m. from room 300, South Building, shown near the top center.

Summer Appointment.

There are no special provisions for appointments to cover the summer-vacation period. A few such appointments can sometimes be made, but, in general, the statements above regarding civil-service requirements for temporary appointments apply to the summer positions as well. The Bureau's operations have to be conducted under a budget providing for fairly uniform maintenance of its work and staff throughout the year. Furthermore, most of the work requires a considerable amount of experience before it can be carried on independently. The time required from experienced members of the staff in instructing and supervising new appointees makes employment for short periods uneconomical. In view of all these conditions, it is necessary to limit rather closely the number of summer appointments made.

Research Associate Positions.

Technical problems arise in every industry. Some are of such pressing importance that an industry or group of technicians concerned may apply to the Bureau for cooperation. If facilities and other conditions are favorable, the Bureau may authorize the appointment of a research associate. The industrial or technical group allots funds for the purpose. research worker is then sought either by the Bureau or the employing organization. If mutually acceptable, he is appointed as a research associate by the Director of the National Bureau of Standards. Usually the appointee is a technical or scientific graduate qualified to initiate and conduct research. The employing organization is usually an association of an entire industry or a specialized scientific or technical group. These appointments are made without reference to civil-service examination, rules, and regulations. In view of the small number of research associate assignments, in comparison with the regular staff, vacancies seldom arise in these positions.

Nontechnical Positions.

There are also other classes of positions on the staff of the National Bureau of Standards, such as clerical, stenographic, administrative, mechanical, etc., but calls for such eligibles are infrequent and there is usually a sufficient supply of eligibles available to meet the demand of the service from current examinations conducted by the United States Civil Service Commission for the entire Government

service. Requests for information concerning these positions should be addressed to the United States Civil Service Commission, Washington, D. C.

Probationary Period.

All civil-service appointees to positions in this Bureau are required to serve a probationary period of one year. At the expiration of the probationary period, the appointment becomes permanent if the employee's work and conduct have been satisfactory.

QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED FOR ENTRANCE

The general requirements necessary for admittance to the examinations for the regular scientific and technical positions are given below. It is, of course, occasionally necessary to announce other special examinations, but these are usually of a highly specialized nature. Detailed requirements for each position are given when an announcement is issued by the United States Civil Service Commission.

Junior Professional Grade (salary range, \$2,000 to \$2,600).

Physicist.—Applicants must have successfully completed a full 4-year course leading to a bachelor's legree in a college or university of recognized standing, including the completion of at least 24 semester-hours' study in physics. (By semester-hour is meant one lecture recitation hour or two laboratory hours per week per semester.) Applicants are examined and rated on the subjects of igeneral physics and mathematics through calculus, and practical questions on the optional subject chosen (electricity, heat, mechanics, optics, radio, sound). Chemist.—Applicants must have successfully com-

Chemist.—Applicants must have successfully comleted a full 4-year course leading to a bachelor's
legree in a college or university of recognized
standing, including the completion of at least 30
semester-hours' study in chemistry. Applicants are
examined and rated on the subjects of general chemstry, and practical questions in the optional subject
shosen (advanced inorganic chemistry, analytical
chemistry, organic chemistry, physical chemistry).

Engineer.—Applicants must have successfully

Engineer.—Applicants must have successfully completed a full 4-year course leading to a bachelor's legree in engineering in a college or university of recognized standing. Applicants are examined and ated on the subjects of engineering fundamentals (including mathematics, physics, mechanics, chem-

istry, engineering materials, etc.), and practical questions in the optional subject chosen (aero-nautical, ceramics, chemical, civil, electrical, mechanical, petroleum, structural steel, and concrete)

Assistant Professional Grade (salary range, \$2,600 to \$3,200).

In addition to meeting the preliminary requirements for the junior professional grade, applicants must have had at least two years of subsequent experience in work of a research or scientific character in the optional selected, showing a fair degree of progression in duties and responsibilities and some aptitude for investigative work; provided, that one year of graduate work will be accepted in lieu of each year of the required experience.

Associate Professional Grade (salary range, \$3,200 to \$3,800).

In addition to meeting the preliminary requirements for the junior professional grade, applicant must show that they have had at least three years of subsequent experience in specialized research of developmental work and should submit evidence to show the quality of work accomplished and their ability to assume important responsibilities and the carry on difficult scientific work in the optional under which they apply. Appointment in this grade requires professional attainment of a high order Applicants may substitute one year of postgraduat work for each year of the required experience, but it works for each year of the required experience, but it works an applicant must have received the doctor degree.

Full Professional Grade (salary range, \$3,800 to \$4,600).

In addition to meeting the preliminary requirements for the junior professional grade, applicant must show that they have had at least five years experience subsequent to graduation and of scientific or investigative nature in the options selected. The training and experience must have been sufficient to demonstrate ability to perforn highly specialized and extremely difficult scientific or investigative work, must show a high degree oprogression, scientific research successfully accomplished, and ability to assume increasingly important responsibilities. Applicants may substitute, yeafor year, up to a maximum of 3 years, for the above

the rescribed experience, postgraduate study in a coler ge or university of recognized standing, with major a udy in the appropriate optional.

igher Professional Grades (salary range, \$4,600 to \$9,000).

,60

Vacancies in the higher professional grades are sually filled by promotion, and it is seldom necessary to make appointments in these grades. Appliants for these positions must show broad fundamental scientific education, extended experience, monstrated proficiency in the field of science volved, and exceptional executive ability. Examations in the higher grades are announced only as the needs of the service require, and then only in lighly specialized fields.

linor Subprofessional Grade (salary range, \$1,020 to \$1,380).

Applicants for the position of minor laboratory prentice must show that they have graduated from 4-year high-school course or completed 14 units of igh-school work accepted for college entrance, and nat their high-school work included at least a 1-year burse in either physics or chemistry. Applicants are camined and rated on the subjects of elementary gebra and geometry and elementary physics or lemistry.

nder Subprofessional Grade (salary range, \$1,260 to \$1,620).

Applicants for the position of under laboratory prentice must have completed at least 30 creditures of college work, which shall have included as a unimum either a 6-hour course in college physics or 6-hour course in college chemistry. Applicants are tamined and rated on the subjects of general chemitry or elementary physics, mathematics through igonometry, and education and experience.

n unior Subprofessional Grade (salary range, \$1,440 σ to \$1,800).

Applicants for the position of junior physical ience aid must have completed at least 60 creditions of college work, such college course to have reluded as a minimum either a 6-hour course in ollege physics or a 6-hour course in college chemically. Applicants are examined and rated on the bijects of general chemistry or elementary physics, anathematics through trigonometry, and education and experience.

Assistant Subprofessional Grade (salary range \$1,620 to \$1,980).

Applicants for the position of assistant physics science aid must show that they have completed a least 90 credit-hours of study in a college or university of recognized standing and that they have majored in the optional subject selected in the examination (advanced general physics, ceramics, chemical engineering, chemistry, civil and mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, paper technology physical metallurgy, physics and chemistry, textil technology). Applicants are examined and rated of the subjects of general chemistry and elementar physics, mathematics including differential calculus and education and experience.

Higher Subprofessional Grades (salary range, \$1,80 to \$3,200).

It is seldom, if ever, necessary to hold examination in the higher subprofessional grades except in unusu cases where special training and experience are required. Employees in the subprofessional service engaged in laboratory work are usually promote from the assistant subprofessional grade to the juniprofessional grade upon receiving a college degret The higher subprofessional grades are compose principally of mechanical or other types of position to in line for promotion to the professional service.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Working Hours.

The regular hours for employees on the scientistaff of the National Bureau of Standards are fro 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., with one-half hour out f luncheon. On Saturdays the working hours a from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. without intermission

Leave of Absence.

Employees of the National Bureau of Standar are granted 26 days, exclusive of Sundays and ho days, of annual leave in each year: *Provided*, The part unused in any year shall be accumulate for succeeding years until it totals not exceeding days. During sickness, employees are entitled sick leave at the rate of 1½ days a month, and such leave is not used it shall accumulate: *Provid*. That the total accumulation shall not exceed 90 days.

12

10

dvancement.

The positions on the scientific staff form a connuous series from the entrance grade to the highest ibject to the limitations placed by the number of icancies occurring. Promotion is possible from one ade to another, subject, of course, to the individual nployee's efficiency, training, and accomplishents and to the funds available for making prootion.

etirement.

Classified employees who have reached the retireent age and have served 15 years are entitled to tirement with annuity. A deduction of 3½ pernt is made from monthly salary toward this annuy, which will be returned with 4-percent interest, impounded annually, to persons leaving the serve before retirement. The retirement age for ofessional employees is 70 years, with optional tirement at 68 years.

becimen Examination Papers.

The National Bureau of Standards does not disibute specimen sets of previous examination papers. he character of the examinations for the various asses of positions is sufficiently indicated under the parate headings in this publication.

ransportation to New Appointees.

Persons accepting appointments must report to Vashington, D. C., or assigned post of duty without set to the Government.

el /elfare.

Provision is made for the individual welfare of the ureau employees. Voluntary first aid is rendered all principal buildings, and for those injured in ne of duty care is provided in accordance with the rovisions of the Federal Compensation Act.

ecreation.

There are tennis courts at the Bureau, and facilities or golf, tennis, bathing, baseball, polo, skating, and there sports are provided in the public parks. The Potomac River is much used for canoeing, with the Library of Congress, National Academy of ciences, National Museum, art galleries, Zoological ark, and many other civic institutions peculiar to be National Capital afford unusual opportunities or culture and recreation.

Cost of Living in Washington.

The cost of living in Washington is about the same as in other large cities of the country. The average cost of room and board in the vicinity of the Nationa Bureau of Standards is approximately \$40 to \$50 per month, including two meals per day. Rentals for apartments and houses would probably range from \$55 per month and upward, depending upon the size, location, etc.

Salary Ranges.

The following table gives the salary steps attached to the various grades and positions under the classification act:

Professional service

Grade	Descriptive title	Salary rates in dollars							
1 2 3 4	Junior	2000 2600 3200 3800	2100 2700 3300 4000	$\begin{array}{c} 2200 \\ 2800 \\ 3400 \\ 4200 \end{array}$	2300 2900 3500 4400	2400 3000 3600 4600	2500 3100 3700	26 32 38	
5 6 7 8	Senior Principal Head Chief	4600 5600 6500 8000	4800 5800 7000 8500	5000 6000 7500 9000	5200 6200	5400 6400			

Subprofessional service

Grade	Descriptive title	Salary rates in dollars									
1	Minor	1020	1080	1140	1200	1260	1320	13			
2	Under	1260	1320	1380	1440	1500	1560	16			
3	Junior	1440	1500	1560	1620	1680	1740	18			
4	Assistant	1620	1680	1740	1800	1860	1920	19			
5	Main	1800	1860	1920	1980	2040	2100	21			
6	Senior	2000	2100	2200	2300	2400	2500	26			
7	Principal	2300	2400	2500	2600	2700	2800	29			
8	Chief	2600	2700	2800	2900	3000	3100	32			

19

Clerical, administrative, and fiscal service

Descriptive title	Salary rates in dollars							
Under	1260	1320	1380	1440	1500	1560	1620	
	1440	1500	1560	1620	1680	1740	1800	
	1620	1680	1740	1800	1860	1920	1980	
	1800	1860	1920	1980	2040	2100	2160	
	2000	2100	2200	2300	2400	2500	2600	
PrincipalAssistant administrative	2300	2400	2500	2600	2700	2800	2900	
	2600	2700	2800	2900	3000	3100	3200	
	2900	3000	3100	3200	3300	3400	3500	
	3200	3300	3400	3500	3600	3700	3800	
	3500	3600	3700	3800	3900	4000	4100	
Principal administra- tive	3800 4600 5600 6500 8000	4000 4800 5800 7000 8500	4200 5000 6000 7500 9000	4400 5200 6200	4600 5400 6400			

Custodial service

Descriptive title	Salary rates in dollars							
Junior messenger Office laborer Minor Under	600 1080 1200 1320 1500	660 1140 1260 1380 1560	720 1200 1320 1440 1620	780 1260 1380 1500 1680	840 1320 1440 1560 1740	1380 1500 1620 1800	1680 1860	
Assistant	1680 1860 2000 2300 2600	1740 1920 2100 2400 2700	1800 1980 2200 2500 2800	1860 2040 2300 2600 2900	1920 2100 2400 2700 3000	1980 2200 2500 2800 3100	2040 2300 2600 2900 3200	

0

