Research Technician

The Center for Composite Materials is seeking an individual with a minimum of two years of experience working in a manufacturing or laboratory environment and using hand/power tools in a machine shop. Experience fabricating composite components and test coupons is desired but not required.

This is a long-term assignment with the potential to become a full-time benefitted position. Hours are Monday through Friday 8:00am – 5:00pm at $18 - $22 per hour, based on experience level.

Context of the job:

Under general supervision, performs a variety of complex technical laboratory, field duties and supervisory work. The principal emphasis is on conducting complex laboratory analyses, tests, experiments, and determinations, which may include designing, modifying, and installing complex laboratory equipment in support of research activities and establishing operating procedures.

Major responsibilities:

• Fabricates composite components, structures, and test articles.
• Prepares composite samples per test instructions for physical/chemical testing (includes layups, consolidation and curing in hydraulic presses, ovens, and autoclave; and machining of samples to requiring shapes and dimensions).
• Perform physical/mechanical testing per instructions, standard test methods, and subcomponents. Tasks include rough cutting laminates, end tabbing, final specimen coupon cutting, gauging, and recording of dimensions, test machine setup for the various standard test configurations, operation of test machine and recording of load / displacement and strain data. Training and technical assistance to all users of the mechanical test lab is also expected.
• Operate, maintain, and train new users on machine shop equipment. Equipment includes lathe, milling machine, slot grinder, wet saw, horizontal and vertical band saw, core drill, shear.
• Generates and documents procedures; operates various electronic devices in the collection tabulation and calculation of data (capable of data reduction and analysis). Maintains laboratory records.
• Ensures proper care in the use and maintenance of equipment and supplies; promotes workplace safety.
• Supports center research activities.
• Routine scheduling and prioritization of assigned work tasks.
• Performs other related duties as assigned
Qualifications:
- Funding source requires U.S. Citizen or Permanent Resident
- Requires a minimum of a high school diploma or GED and 2 years of experience in a manufacturing or laboratory environment.
- Requires knowledge of laboratory equipment, techniques, procedures, and record keeping; manufacturing, and mechanical aptitude required including demonstrated skills working with hand and machine tools.
- Ability to work independently from oral and/or written instructions, develop operating practices, assume responsibility, and take initiative to perform tasks with little direct supervision.
- Ability to train and instruct others.
- Ability to accept and complete specific independent tasks to contribute to a team effort.
- Ability to work well with faculty, scientists, students, and the public and communicate effectively and interact well with people of all ages and diverse backgrounds.
- Basic computer skills with MS Office applications, including Excel, Word, and PowerPoint.
- Demonstrates an understanding and consideration of the differing needs and concerns of individuals with varying identities, cultures, and backgrounds.
- Committed to fostering a workplace culture of belonging, where diversity is celebrated, and equity is a core value.

Special requirements:
With or without assistance, must be able to routinely lift-up to 50 pounds. Requires dexterity in handling delicate and hazardous materials and the ability to accurately discern colors and measure laboratory materials. May require a valid vehicle operator's license.

Occupational exposures:
Frequently required to use personal protective equipment to prevent exposure to hazardous materials.

To apply, send resume to Corinne Hamed hamed@udel.edu

Employment offers will be conditioned upon successful completion of a criminal background check. A conviction will not necessarily exclude you from employment.

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