



# PORTLAND VA MEDICAL CENTER

Our mission is to honor America's veterans by providing exceptional health care that improves their health and well-being.



## NOTICE OF VACANCY

**POSITION TITLE:** Health Technician

**ANNOUNCEMENT #:** MP-11-0039-JR

**DIVISION:** Research & Development Service

**LOCATION:** Portland VA Medical Center. Portland, Oregon.

**SERIES & SALARY RANGE:** GS – 0640-04 \$29,507 to \$38,357

**OPEN DATE:** 12/7/2010

**CLOSE DATE:** 12/22/2010

**NUMBER OF VACANCIES:** 1

**POSITION INFORMATION:** 13 month Term position (NTE 1 year and 1 day). Full time. Monday through Friday

### WHO MAY APPLY:

Portland VA and Nationwide VA Medical Center career or career conditional employees and permanent Title 38 and Title 38 Hybrid employees eligible under the interchange agreement and people eligible under special hiring authorities (Noncompetitive appointment of certain military spouses, Schedule A Applicants, VRA (Veterans Readjustment Act) eligible applicants), ICTAP/CTAP eligible Federal Employees.

**BARGAINING UNIT POSITION:** Yes

**MAJOR DUTIES:** Performs a range of diagnostic support such as taking blood specimens and labeling and collecting specimens for the laboratory. Provides general clerical/administrative support coordination work for the unit. Schedules appointments and procedures. Plans, organizes and coordinates activities of the office. Communicates in a tactful and courteous manner with a wide variety of individuals with varying levels of understanding. Uses software to produce specific printouts for the clinical staff. Uses word processing software to produce a variety of documents such as encounters forms, treatment plans, specialty procedures, etc. Reviews patient charts prior to appointment for complete and accurate medical information. Secures the confidence and cooperation of patients during procedures. Explains procedures, positions patients for desired results, and assists patients as appropriate. Files clinical material in correct sequence and chronological order.

### QUALIFICATIONS:

- **Eligibility:** U.S. Office of Personnel Management [Qualification Standards](#) Handbook for GS-0640. Regulatory requirements such as "time after competitive appointment" are applicable.
- **Basic Requirements:** Must be a U.S. citizen.
- **Generalized Experience:** GS-4: Six (6) months of general experience and six (6) months of specialized experience.
- **General Experience:** Any type of work that demonstrates the applicant's ability to perform the work of the position, or experience that provided a familiarity with the subject matter or processes of the broad subject area of the occupation.
- **Specialized Experience:** At least six (6) months of experience that equipped the applicant with the particular knowledge, skills, and abilities (KSA's) to perform successfully the duties of the position, and that is typically in or related to the position to be filled. To be creditable, specialized experience must have been equivalent to at least the next lower grade level (GS-3). Specialized experience includes, but is not limited to; work done as a research assistant or technician, program support assistant, clinical research coordinator, clinical or study coordinator, research associate or other similar

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position that was involved in human studies research. Qualifying experience will have equipped the applicant with knowledge of the principles of health services research, ability to review and revise written materials used to collect information from research participants, ability to work with community and clinical programs to recruit subjects for medical research projects, ability to write descriptions of research procedures, ability to create written materials explaining research projects to potential research subjects, ability to interview research participants and record valid responses, and ability to keep accurate records of research results.

**- Substitution of Education for Experience:** GS-4: Successfully completed 2 years of study above high school that included at least 12 semester hours in subjects related to the position being filled. This education must have been obtained in an accredited business, secretarial or technical school, junior college, college or university. (TRANSCRIPT REQUIRED - If you do not submit a copy of your transcript, your application may not be processed.) **OR** GS-4: Equivalent combinations of creditable specialized experience and education as described above to meet the total requirements for the position. (TRANSCRIPT REQUIRED - If you do not provide a copy of your transcript your application packet may not be processed).

**- Basis for Rating: Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:** Applicants will be ranked based on four quality groups, as follows:

Best qualified - applicants possessing experience that substantially exceeds the minimum qualifications of the position including all selective factors, and who are highly proficient in all requirements of the job and can perform effectively in the position;

Highly qualified - applicants possessing experience that exceeds the minimum qualifications of the position including all selective factors, and who are proficient in most of the requirements of the job;

Well qualified - applicants possessing experience that meets the minimum qualifications of the position including all selective factors, and who are proficient in some, but not all, of the requirements of the job; and

Qualified - applicants possessing experience and/or education that meet the minimum qualifications of the position including all selective factors.

After the vacancy announcement closes, reviewed applications are evaluated against the application materials submitted and placed in the appropriate quality group. Qualified veterans will be afforded preference by being placed at the top of the appropriate quality group. Qualifying veterans with a service-connected disability of 10% or more will be placed at the top of the best qualified group. The best qualified group is the first to be referred to the hiring facility for further consideration and possible interview. The remaining groups may be referred based on the number of applicants available.

### CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT:

**- Priority Consideration:** Individuals who have special priority selection rights under the Agency Career Transition Assistance Program (CTAP) or the Interagency Career Transition Assistance Program (ICTAP) must be well qualified for the position to receive consideration for special priority selection. CTAP and ICTAP eligibles will be considered well qualified if they can perform the duties of the position at the full performance level and the full range. Well qualified - applicants possessing experience that meets the minimum qualifications of the position including all selective factors, and who are proficient in some, but not all, of the requirements of the job. Federal Employees seeking CTAP/ICTAP eligibility must submit proof that they meet the requirements of 5 CFR 330.605 (a) for CTAP and 5 CFR 330.704 for ICTAP. This includes a copy of the agency notice, a copy of their most recent Performance Rating and a copy of their most recent SF-50 noting current position, grade level, and duty location. Please annotate your application to reflect that you are applying as a CTAP or ICTAP eligible.

**- Noncompetitive Appointment of Certain Military Spouses:** Spouses of armed forces members who are involved in a Permanent Change of Station (PCS): You must include a copy of the service member's PCS Orders authorizing the spouse to accompany the service member and proof of marriage to the service member. Spouses of armed forces members who retired or were released from

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active duty with a 100% disability: You must include proof that service member was released or discharged from active duty due to a service-connected disability, documentation of 100% disability, and proof of marriage to the service member. Un-remarried widows or widowers of armed forces members killed while on active duty: You must include proof of service member's death while on active duty and proof of marriage to the service member.

- **Schedule A** special hiring authority covers applicants with mental and physical disabilities. In order to be considered under this special hiring authority applicants need to provide proof of disability and job readiness certification. The proof of disability and job readiness certification can be provided by the following: 1) a statement or letter on a physician's/medical professional's letterhead; 2) statement, record or letter from a Federal Government agency that issues or provides disability benefits; 3) statement, record or letter from a State Vocational Rehabilitation Agency counselor; or 4) certification from a private Vocational Rehabilitation or other Counselor that issues or provides disability benefits. More information regarding this special hiring authority can be found at [www.opm.gov/disability/aboutus.asp](http://www.opm.gov/disability/aboutus.asp)

- **VRA (Veterans Recruitment Act):** VRA eligibility applies to the following categories: Disabled Veterans, Veterans who served on active duty in the Armed Forces during a war declared by Congress, or in a campaign or expedition for which a campaign badge has been authorized, Veterans who, while serving on active duty in the Armed Forces, participated in a military operation for which the Armed Forces Service Medal (AFSM) was awarded and Veterans separated from active duty within the past 3 years.

- Although the duty station is shown in this announcement, it may be necessary to utilize the selected person's services at a different location within the Portland VA Medical Center commuting area if conditions require it in the future

- Applicants without prior federal service will be appointed at step one of the grade

- Eligible employees may be non-competitively reassigned to fill this position as an exception to merit promotion.

- Under Executive Order 11935, only United States citizens and nationals (residents of American Samoa and Swains Island) may compete for civil service jobs. Agencies are permitted to hire noncitizens only in very limited circumstances where there are no qualified citizens available for the position.

- If you are a male born after December 31, 1959, and are at least 18 years of age, civil service employment law (5 U.S.C. 3328) requires that you must register with the [Selective Service](#) System, unless you meet certain exemptions.

- A security clearance and a favorable suitability determination are required. Misconduct in prior employment, criminal, dishonest or disgraceful conduct, habitual use of intoxicating beverages, abuse of narcotics, drugs or other controlled substances, or reasonable doubt of loyalty to the United States are examples of reasons an offer of employment may be denied.

- Public transit subsidy benefits are available. Carpooling assistance is provided. However, single occupancy parking is limited on main Portland campus.

- Applicants appointed to direct patient care positions must be proficient in spoken and written English as required by 38 USC 7402(d) and 7407(d).

- A drug test may be required for an applicant who is tentatively selected.

- A pre-employment physical examination will be required for an applicant who is tentatively selected.

- This agency provides reasonable accommodations to applicants with disabilities. If you need a reasonable accommodation for any part of the application and hiring process, please notify the agency. The decision on granting reasonable accommodation will be on a case-by-case basis

- The United States Government does not discriminate in employment on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, political affiliation, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, age, membership in an employee organization, or other non-merit factor.

- It is the policy of the Department of Veterans Affairs that all Federal wage and salary payments are paid to employees by Direct Deposit/Electronic Funds Transfer (DD/EFT).

### HOW TO APPLY:

Application forms may be obtained in Human Resources Management Service or on our [Portland VAMC](#) internet website.

#### Portland VAMC Permanent Internal employees:

1. [VAF 4078, Application for Promotion or Reassignment](#)
2. [VAF 4676a, Employee Supplemental Qualifications Statement](#) (due 12/27/2010)
3. [VAF 4667b, Supervisory Appraisal of Employee for Promotion](#) (due 12/27/2010)
4. Updated application; [OF 612, Optional Application for Federal Employment](#) (attach additional sheets of paper if needed for additional job experience (in same format as application)), or Resume.
5. [MPQ – Merit Promotion Questionnaire](#) is optional but recommended if you have qualifications pertaining to the position applied for but are not in your OPF.

#### All Other Applicants Must Submit:

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1. [OF 612, Optional Application for Federal Employment](#) (attach additional sheets of paper if needed for additional job experience (in same format as application)), or Resume. (Please refer to [OF-510, Applying for a Federal Job](#) on the USA jobs website (<http://www.usajobs.opm.gov/>) for information on how to apply with a resume instead of OF-612.
2. [OF-306, Declaration for Federal Employment](#) (January 2001 version or later).
3. Veterans Preference: (Required if Veterans Preference is being used for status)
  - a. DD-214, Military Discharge Paper (copy must display the required data which includes awards/medals/badges, dates and character of service) (For 5 Point Veteran's Preference).
  - b. [SF-15, Application for 10-point Veteran Preference](#) (December 2004 version or later) (if applicable)
  - c. VA letter or DOD documentation of service-connected disability rating dated 1991 or later if applicable.
4. SF-50, Notification of Personnel Action (if applying as a current or former federal employee).
5. Special Hiring Authority documentation (if applying under ICTAP/CTAP, Schedule A, etc.)
6. A copy of your college transcripts (Optional unless education is required). Please note, education must be accredited by an accrediting institution recognized by the U.S. Department of Education in order for it to be credited towards qualifications (particularly positions with a positive education requirement.). Therefore, applicants must report only attendance and/or degrees from schools accredited by accrediting institutions recognized by the U.S. Department of Education. Applicants can verify accreditation at the following website: <http://www.ed.gov/admins/finaid/accred/index.html>. All education claimed by applicants will be verified by the appointing agency accordingly. Foreign Education; to receive credit for education completed outside the United States, you must show proof that the education has been submitted to a private organization that specializes in the interpretation of foreign educational credentials and such education has been deemed at least equivalent to that gained in conventional U.S. education programs.

**All application packets must be received in Human Resources by Close of Business (COB) on 12/22/2010.**

- Applications may be emailed to: [PortlandVAJobs@va.gov](mailto:PortlandVAJobs@va.gov)
- Received by Fax to: 503.273.5029 ATTN: MP-11-0039-JR
- Mailed to: PO BOX 1034, Portland, OR 97207 ATTN: MP-11-0039-JR
- Brought in person to: Portland VA Medical Center at 3710 SW US Veterans Hospital Road, Portland, OR 97239, Human Resources Building 16, Room 300

**Thank you for your interest in the Portland VA Medical Center, for more career opportunities please visit: Portland VA Human Resources or [USAJobs](#).**

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