

Biological Science Technician Positions (GS 0404-05) available at Gateway National Recreation Area, Sandy Hook Unit, Highlands, NJ

These positions support the Division of Natural Resource Stewardship at Gateway National Recreation Area (<https://www.nps.gov/gate/index.htm>). Positions will be duty stationed in the Sandy Hook Unit (Highlands, NJ).

The anticipated entry-on-duty (EOD) date – As soon as possible. Selected applicants will have to successfully complete a federal background investigation prior to entering on duty. It is anticipated that the positions will end in early to mid-September and no later than September 30, 2020.

STATEMENT OF DUTIES: Working with peers or alone, these positions perform a variety of tasks relating to natural resources, i.e., water, land, plants, animals, and soils. Assignments are performed within established methods, techniques and procedures using standard scientific equipment. Such tasks might include: field observations of vegetation, fish and wildlife resources; collection of field data; inputting data into spreadsheets and performing quality control on entered data; conducting field surveys to document and assess resource management issues; using a variety of computer programs including Excel, Access and Geographic Information System (GIS) software to compile and report data and other resource management information; habitat management activities including invasive plant control, native plant installation and site preparation; assisting with photo documentation of projects; and education and outreach to park visitors to foster shared stewardship and protection of park resources; and, compilation and presentation of educational programs to staff, volunteers and the public.

Physical Demands: The work requires physical exertion such as regular and recurring walking, hiking, or climbing over wet, rough, uneven, or rocky surfaces; bending; crouching, stooping, lifting or reaching to observe, collect, or record field data; or in some situations the work may require physical exertion. Heavy items (e.g., equipment and packs up to 30 pounds) must be lifted and carried on a routine basis.

Work Environment: The work is performed primarily in the field with some office work. The work performed involves regular and recurring exposure to extreme weather conditions and terrain, poisonous plants, biting insects, and wild animals.

Area Information: The National Parks of New York Harbor include 10 national park system sites with 23 unique destinations in and around four of the five boroughs of New York City and northern New Jersey. These positions are located at Gateway National Recreation Area, either in the Jamaica Bay Unit, in Brooklyn, NY or in the Sandy Hook Unit, in Highlands, NJ. Gateway National Recreation Area was established in 1972 as one of America's first urban national park. Located in the heart of New York City, the park extends from Brooklyn and Queens, to Staten Island and Sandy Hook, NJ. The nearly 27,000-acre park includes a wildlife refuge, holly forest, ocean dunes and coastal uplands, former military fortifications, New York City's first municipal airport and the oldest continuously operating lighthouse in America. Visitors enjoy ocean beaches, organized sports, fishing, hiking, bicycling, nature study and a chance to explore the area's important cultural heritage.

To Apply: Submit a resume and transcripts (if qualifying based on education or combination of education and experience) to patricia_rafferty@nps.gov

Applicants must live or have current housing available within the commuting distance of the duty station. No park housing is available.

USAJOBS help center provides information to assist in developing a resume to document qualifications for federal employment

<https://www.usajobs.gov/Help/faq/application/documents/resume/what-to-include/>

Resume Requirements: Resume which includes a list of all significant jobs held and duties performed, with dates specified in month and year format, and indicate hours worked per week. If military or civilian, please include your rank and/or grade.

Education Requirements: To qualify based on education, you must submit a legible copy of transcripts from an accredited institution with your name, school name, credit hours, course level, major(s), and grade-point average or class ranking. Transcripts do not need to be official, but if you are selected for this position, and you used your education to qualify, you must provide official transcripts before you begin work.

If you are using education completed in foreign colleges or universities to meet qualification requirements, you must show that your education credentials have been evaluated by a private organization that specializes in interpretation of foreign education programs and such education has been deemed equivalent to that gained in an accredited U.S. education program; or full credit has been given for the courses at a U.S. accredited college or university.

Qualifications:

At the GS-05:

To qualify for this position at the GS-05 grade level, you must possess at least one of the following minimum qualifications by close of the announcement:

EXPERIENCE: At least one full year of specialized experience comparable in scope and responsibility to the GS-04 grade level in the Federal service (obtained in either the public or private sectors). This experience includes activities such as: conducting environmental monitoring and management activities by making field observations, vegetation management, restoration management, conducting surveys, operating and maintaining various types of landscaping equipment and recording and entering data into databases (such as Microsoft Access and ESRI ArcMap, or comparable software) in support of field resource management projects.

-OR-

EDUCATION: Successful completion of four years of education above high school (120 semester hours) leading to a bachelor's degree with major study or 24 semester hours of course work in a related field of scientific or technical study, such as in biology, chemistry, statistics,

entomology, animal husbandry, botany, physics, agriculture, or mathematics. At least 6 semester hours of courses must be directly related to this position. Examples of directly related courses are wildlife management, aquatic entomology, botany, biology, ecology, environmental science or natural resource management. You must include transcripts.

-OR-

COMBINATION: Successful completion of a combination of education and experience as described above. {NOTE: Only education in excess of the first 60 semester hours of a course of study leading to a bachelor's degree is creditable toward meeting the specialized experience requirements. Two full academic years of study, or 60 semester hours, beyond the second year is equivalent to 1 year of specialized experience.} For example, six months of the specialized experience described above (50% of the experience requirement), and 3 years of college study from an accredited institution (50% of the qualifying education) which included at least 12 semester hours of related coursework as specified above (50% of the related coursework required), and at least 3 semester hours of courses must be directly related to this position. Add the percentages together. The total must equal at least 100 percent to qualify. You must include transcripts.

Volunteer Experience: Experience refers to paid and unpaid experience, including volunteer work done through National Service programs (e.g., Peace Corps, AmeriCorps) and other organizations (e.g., professional; philanthropic; religious; spiritual; community, student, social). Volunteer work helps build critical competencies, knowledge, and skills and can provide valuable training and experience that translates directly to paid employment. You will receive credit for all qualifying experience, including volunteer experience.