

JOB POSTING NOTICE**POSTING DATE:** March 5, 2010**REFERENCE NUMBER:** MS-CPHL-01*Internal and External resumes will be accepted at this time*

Position Title: Molecular Scientist
Department: Office of the Medical Director
Duration: Permanent
Location: Toronto Public Health Laboratory
Compensation Group: AMAPCEO
Position Status: OPEN
Job Code: 20PGS General Scientific
Salary: \$72,422 - \$94,078
Schedule: 6
Hours of Work: 36.25 Hours per Week
Posting Date: March 9, 2010
Closing Date: March 23, 2010

Organization Summary

The Ontario Agency for Health Protection & Promotion (OAHPP) is a centre for specialized research and knowledge in public health, focusing in the areas of infectious disease, infection control and prevention, health promotion, chronic disease and injury prevention, and environmental health. It provides technical and scientific assistance, rapid on-site field support, as needed, specialized communication and training, as well as standards input and practical tools for implementing best practices.

The Agency was created by the Ontario Government as a result of its commitment to Operation Health Protection, through the Health System Improvements Act (Bill 171). As Ontario's first ever provincial Agency for Health Protection and Promotion, the Agency brings academic, clinical, and government experts together to create a centre of public health excellence in the province.

Position Details

This position is responsible for the development and implementation of molecular methods to support laboratory services involving the diagnosis, prevention and treatment of food and waterborne disease and disease outbreak situations across the province, and the provision of specialty and reference services.

1. Supports the implementation of leading-edge, sophisticated analysis and research capabilities within OAHPP Public Health Laboratories to respond to potential public health threats from food and waterborne outbreaks in order to protect public health and safety, and to support disease diagnosis, prevention and treatment of food and waterborne outbreaks of public health importance.
2. Develops, performs and oversees highly specialized and complex molecular-based laboratory testing to identify and type food and waterborne pathogens to support laboratory efforts of public health food and water threats. Recommends improvements in laboratory methods, equipment and new testing technology, and introduces new protocols for molecular-based diagnostic laboratory testing of food and waterborne pathogens when required. Initiates research and development prior to establishing new protocol where none exists. Plans, designs, and conducts research projects, sophisticated analyses and methods evaluations.

3. As a Public Health Laboratory specialist in food and waterborne microbiology, the molecular specialist provides scientific advisory services, technical guidance and professional expertise in proposing laboratory guidelines, procedures and evaluation criteria that apply to molecular-based techniques. Supports the implementation of more effective techniques and new test technology. Assesses proposed and existing laboratory procedures, standards, policies and plans. Prepares procedures manuals.
4. Provides consultation and specialized advisory services to OAHPP officials, regional staff, physicians, other health care providers, physicians, hospital and private laboratories, medical microbiologists, Medical Officers of Health, health units and regional laboratories, on the application of methodologies, the interpretation of laboratory results/analyses, the identification of organisms and the interpretation of laboratory results. Identifies matters of potential public health importance e.g. unusual or emerging pathogens and informs the supervisor. Responds to sudden events and circumstances.
5. Acts as an OAHPP resident expert on molecular food diagnostic and/or reference laboratory testing services for the OAHPP. Prepares detailed, well-focused technical reports, laboratory manuals and scientific papers for approval by management and/or scientific staff.
6. Designs, plans and executes research experiments. Conducts research projects with provincial/national/ international organizations and universities. Provides project leadership to assigned staff as required. Participates on provincial, national and international advisory committees.
7. Maintains quality control and recommends improvements to laboratory methods and techniques. Recommends the purchase of new laboratory equipment.

Qualifications

- Post-graduate degree from a university of recognized standing in microbiology with specialized training in molecular methods, equipment, research and analysis.
- Demonstrated knowledge of current molecular theory and its application to the field of public health.
- Proven knowledge in foodborne microbiology.
- Knowledge of scientific research principles to design, plan and execute research experiments and projects, to conduct complex laboratory tests and to make definitive decisions regarding test results.
- Knowledge of OAHPP policies and procedures related to the provision of diagnostic clinical laboratory services, and the documentation and communication of related information.
- Analytical skills to review molecular-based and other testing techniques and methodologies to identify foodborne pathogens; to utilize new approaches for implementation within the laboratories; to interpret findings and identify potential public health issues by making diagnostic judgements.
- Advisory skills to consult with medical and scientific professionals regarding the development and implementation of new/revised protocol, to discuss test results and interpretation, to promote the use of specialized practices and advanced molecular-based testing technology/ equipment, and to provide sophisticated input at committee meetings.
- Written communication skills to prepare presentations, reports and scientific papers on molecular-based laboratory diagnostic methods and interpretation of diagnostic findings, and to prepare/revise laboratory manuals.
- Team leadership skills to lead project staff.
- Ability to respond to rapidly escalating circumstances.

- Knowledge of Laboratory Information Systems and other database programs to facilitate data collection and analysis.

Your cover letter and resume must clearly indicate how you meet the qualifications and competencies. Preference will be given to internal applicants.

E-mail your resume referencing MS-CPHL-01 to careers@oahpp.ca by March 23, 2010. For more information about the Agency visit our website at www.oahpp.ca

Thank you for your interest in this position, however, only qualified candidates will be contacted for an interview. Please continue to view our website for new career opportunities with the ***Ontario Agency for Health Protection and Promotion***.