EAST SIDE MOSQUITO ABATEMENT DISTRICT

2000 Santa Fe Avenue, Modesto, CA 95357 • (209) 522-4098 • FAX (209) 522-7841

[www.eastsidemosquito.com](http://www.eastsidemosquito.com)

POSITION: LABORATORY ASSISTANT I (FULL TIME AND SEASONAL)

SALARY: $4602 - $5470.33 (Range 1 - 8, Resolution 165-2024)

BENEFITS: Full benefit package (medical, dental, vision, sick leave, 16 paid holidays annually). Retirement is limited to Full Time employees, only.

STATUS: Regular full time and/or Seasonal, subject to twelve (12) month probation period.

**Definition of the Position**: Under general direction, the Laboratory Assistant I performs routine services within Field Surveillance and Laboratory Programs, and assists in trapping, identifying, and conducting laboratory and field tests to test mosquitoes for arboviruses, evaluate insecticide testing, resistance and with conducting applied research.

**Essential Job Duties**

1. Collects mosquitoes for arbovirus surveillance using different traps.
2. Identifies mosquitoes at all life stages to an appropriate level.
3. Collects other vectors including flies, hornet wasp, wild rodents, and flies surveillance.
4. If assigned, collects and stocks fish and other biocontrol agents.
5. Designs, constructs, calibrate, and maintain various forms of insect/animal surveillance and collecting equipment.
6. Assist with in-house testing of control products.
7. Maintains the laboratory in a clean, orderly, and organized manner.
8. Inputs data and distributes surveillance reports for the District
9. Assists with and performs a variety of duties dealing with field, laboratory, and research related tasks.
10. Maintains insect and animal colonies and production held by the District.
11. Maintains regular and punctual attendance.
12. Performs other duties and responsibilities as required.

**Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:** Knowledge of the duties and responsibilities of the East Side Mosquito Abatement District, ability to learn the mechanics, general principals and techniques of mosquito and related vector control, including the safe and legal operation of vehicles, equipment, and standard safety practices. The ability to learn, understand and perform the duties and responsibilities of the Laboratory Assistant I position; work independently and responsibly with minimum supervision; use computers, VeeMac applications, Calsurv, and other software for texting editing, graphing and mapping and other software applications; safely operate a motor vehicle and standard district equipment related to laboratory work; understand and follow oral and written instructions; establish and maintain effective, cooperative relations with co- workers, lead staff and the general public; communicate clearly and effectively, both orally and in writing; read and write at

a level required for successful job performance. The requirements listed below are representative of the knowledge, skill, and/or ability required for *Laboratory Assistant I* position.

**Education and Experience:** Graduation from high School, GED or equivalent. Two or more years of full-time related experience performing work comparable in scope and complexity to lab technician and/or lab assistant work performed by the District. Other relevant knowledge and abilities may be considered in-lieu, or in addition to, the foregoing.

**Other:** Possession of a valid California Driver license and driving record acceptable to ESMAD insurance carrier; must possess or within one and half years of employment possess the California Department of Public Heath Vector Control Certifications in categories A and B (Mosquito Control), and successful completion of pre-employment physical examination, drug screening, and background check.

**Working Conditions:**

The *Laboratory Assistant I* may be exposed to: pesticides, communicable diseases and other health hazards; inclement weather conditions; and verbally abusive behavior from hostile individuals.

**Functional Requirements:**

* Strength, stamina, and mobility to perform medium physical work, work around machines, to operate a variety of tools and equipment, and to operate a motor vehicle.
* Ability to read printed materials and a computer screen, speak, hear, and communicate in person and over the telephone.
* Have finger dexterity needed to access, enter, and retrieve data using a computer keyboard, and to operate tools and equipment.
* Incumbents in this classification frequently walk, bend, stoop, kneel, crouch, twist, reach, stand, and traverse uneven and/or slippery ground such as fields, dirt banks, streambeds and rough terrain.
* Incumbents must possess the ability to grasp, lift, carry, push, and pull materials and objects weighing up to 50 pounds or heavier weights with assistance and/or the use of proper equipment.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS**

Approximately half of the work is performed in extreme temperatures, which may include the requirement that heavy protective gear and equipment be carried. Extreme dryness is present much of the time although some weather conditions or locations include humid conditions, and encounter with biting insects, other animals including dog.