



**DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**  
**DELEGATED EXAMINING UNIT**  
Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System  
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Los Angeles, CA 90073

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EXAMINING ANNOUNCEMENT: **VA-1-SR-12**  
OPEN UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE  
NO WRITTEN TEST REQUIRED  
GS-642-5/6/7/8/9

**OPPORTUNITIES FOR EMPLOYMENT**  
  
AS A  
  
**NUCLEAR MEDICINE TECHNICIAN**  
  
WITH THE  
  
**DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**

“America is # 1—Thanks to our Veterans”

LOCATION OF POSITIONS: Most of the positions will be at the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center and Clinics located in Northern and Southern California and Nevada, and some positions may be located in Hawaii, Samoa and Guam.

DESCRIPTION OF DUTIES: Nuclear medicine technicians use radionuclides (exclusive of sealed radiation sources) for diagnostic, therapeutic, and investigative purposes. Such positions require a technical knowledge of the principles and practices of nuclear medicine and the ability to perform tests and examinations using radionuclides, radiation detectors, scanning apparatus, and related equipment in medical laboratories and clinics.

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:

NOTE: Public Law 97-35 requires that persons who administer radiologic procedures meet the credentialing standards in 42 CFR part 75. Essentially, they must (1) have successfully completed an educational program that meets or exceeds the standards described in that regulation, and is accredited by an organization recognized by the Department of Education, and (2) be certified as radiographers in their field. The following meet the above requirements:

(1) Persons employed by the Federal Government as radiological personnel prior to the effective date of the Regulation (January 13, 1986) who show evidence of current or fully satisfactory performance or certification of such from a licensed practitioner such as a doctor of medicine, osteopathy, dentistry, podiatry, or chiropractic who prescribes radiologic procedures to others.

(2) Persons first employed by the Federal Government as radiologic personnel after the effective date of the regulation who (a) received training from institutions in a State or foreign jurisdiction that did not accredit training in that particular field at the time of graduation or (b) practiced in a State or foreign jurisdiction that did not license that particular field or did not allow special eligibility to take a licensure examination for those who did not graduate from an accredited educational program, provided that such persons show evidence of training, experience, and competence as determined by OPM or the employing agency.

Except for the substitutions provided below, candidates must have had qualifying experience, including pertinent unpaid or volunteer experience, as shown in the following table:

<u>GRADE</u>	<u>SPECIALIZED EXPERIENCE</u>
GS-5	1 year equivalent to GS-4 in the Federal Service
GS-6	1 year equivalent to GS-5 in the Federal Service
GS-7	1 year equivalent to GS-6 in the Federal Service
GS-8	1 year equivalent to GS-7 in the Federal Service
GS-9	1 year equivalent to GS-8 in the Federal Service

SPECIALIZED EXPERIENCE: This is experience that has provided the knowledge, skills and abilities needed to perform nuclear medicine tests and examinations. Such knowledge, skills, and abilities are generally acquired by providing technical support to physicians or other professional nuclear medicine personnel in the diagnosis, care, and treatment of patients, the therapeutic application of radionuclides, and the preparation of radiopharmaceuticals for nuclear medicine research and investigation.

**SUBSTITUTION OF EDUCATION FOR EXPERIENCE:**

- A. Successful completion of four years academic study that included at least 24 semester hours in any combination of scientific subjects such as radiation biology, anatomy, physiology, nuclear medicine physics, radiation physics, nuclear instrumentation, medical technology, nuclear medicine, radionuclide chemistry, statistics, or radiopharmacology is fully qualifying for GS-5.
- B. Successful completion of a training program for nuclear medicine technicians or medical or radiology technicians may be substituted, on a month-to-month basis, for a maximum of one year of specialized experience required for GS-5
- C. Six months of full-time graduate education or an internship meets the specialized experience for GS-6 if the education is directly related to the position.
- D. One year of full-time graduate education or an internship meets the specialized experience for GS-7 if the education is directly related to the position.
- E. One and one-half years of full-time graduate education meets the requirements for GS-8 if the education is directly related to the position.
- F. Two years of full-time graduate education or a master's degree meets the specialized experience for GS-9 if the education is directly related to the position.

**Training-Technical/Medical Support Positions**

Completion of appropriate training such as inservice training programs; training acquired while serving in the Armed Forces, and government-sponsored developmental training programs will be allowed credit on a month-for-month basis, generally through the GS-5 level. Such training meets general or specialized experience requirements depending upon its applicability.

Equivalent combinations of successfully completed post-high school education and experience are also qualifying. The combination of education and experience may be qualifying for positions through the GS-5 level.

**COMBINING EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:** Equivalent combinations of successfully completed post-high school education and experience are also qualifying.

**BASIS OF RATING:** Candidates will be rated on the basis of an evaluation of the experience, education and training as shown in the application and any other supplementary information which may be submitted.

**TERMS OF ELIGIBILITY:** Candidates will receive employment consideration for 12 months from the date on the eligibility letter. Eligibility may be extended for an additional 12-month period by submitting updated qualifications information after 10 months of eligibility.

**EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY:** All candidates for Federal employment receive consideration without regard to race, religion, color, sex national origin, political affiliation, age (with statutory exceptions), or any other non-merit factor.

HOW TO APPLY: (Submit the following forms)

It remains the responsibility of the applicant to ensure timely receipt of the application, regardless of the method used for submission. The Veterans Administration assumes no responsibility for the late delivery of applications (i.e., postal service delays, computer system or fax machine is down at the sending or receiving location, etc.)

**APPLICATIONS MAILED IN GOVERNMENT FRANKED ENVELOPES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED FOR EMPLOYMENT CONSIDERATION. FAXES RECEIVED FROM FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

1. Optional Form 306 plus Optional Form OF 612 or resume (or any other written format). For resumes the following information must be included. Please give the name and address of your employer(s), give the dates (starting and ending month/year) you were employed, the average number of hours worked per week and describe the duties you performed. Be sure to include all of your experience and related experience, including time spent in the Armed Forces and any other non-paid work experience. You must show the lowest salary or grade level you are willing to accept.
2. **Provide beginning and ending dates of employment and the average number of hours worked per week for each position listed on your application or resume.**
3. **Applicants must provide their Social Security Number in order to have their application package accepted.**
4. A copy of college transcripts if you are qualifying on the basis of education or combination of education and experience.
5. Submit a copy of your DD 214 if you are applying for Veterans Preference. If applying for 10 Point Veterans Preference, submit a copy of your DD 214 along with Standard Form 15 with appropriate proof dated within the last 12 months.

(VETERANS PREFERENCE)

- \* During the period December 7, 1941 to July 1, 1955.
- \* For more than 180 consecutive days, any part of which occurred after January 31, 1955, and before October 15, 1976.
- \* Operation Joint Endeavor in Bosnia from November 20, 1995 to December 20, 1996.
- \* Operation Joint Guard from December 20, 1996 to: (To Be Determined). The Secretary of each military department must decide which members are eligible.
- \* During the Gulf War from August 2, 1990 through January 2, 1992 (who is otherwise eligible and who served on active duty during this period regardless of where the person served or for how long). Otherwise eligible means that the person must have been released from the Service under honorable conditions and must have served a minimum of two years on active duty, or if a Reservist, must have served the full period for which called to active duty.
- \* In a campaign or expedition for which a campaign medal has been authorized, including El Salvador, Grenada, Haiti, Lebanon, Panama, Somalia, Southwest Asia and Bosnia.
- \* Medal holders and Gulf War veterans who enlisted after September 7, 1980, or entered on active duty on or after October 14, 1982, must have served continuously for 24 months or the full period called or ordered to active duty. The service requirement does not apply to veterans with

compensable service-connected disabilities, or to veterans separated for disability in the line of duty, or for hardship.

6. If you are currently a Department of Veterans Affairs employee who has received a Reduction in Force (RIF) separation notice or a Certificate of Expected Separation you may be entitled to special priority selection under the Department of Veterans Affairs' Agency Career Transition Assistance Program (ACTAP). To receive this priority consideration you must:
  - A. Be a current Department of Veterans Affairs career or career-conditional (tenure group I or II) competitive service employee who has received a RIF separation notice or a Certificate of Expected Separation (CES) and the date of the RIF separation has not passed and you are still on the rolls of Department of Veterans Affairs. You must submit a copy of the RIF separation notice or CES along with your application upon request.
  - B. Be applying for a position that is at or below the grade level of the position from which you are being separated. The position must not have a greater promotion potential than the position from which you are being separated.
  - C. Have a current (or last) performance rating of record of at least fully successful or equivalent. This must be submitted with your application package.
  - D. Be currently employed by Department of Veterans Affairs in the same commuting area of the position for which you are requesting priority consideration.
  - E. File your application by the vacancy announcement closing date and meet all the application criteria (e.g., submit all required documentation, etc.).
  - F. Be rated well qualified for the position. ACTAP candidates attaining an eligibility rating for this position of 80.0 or above(not including veterans preference points) will be considered "well-qualified."
  
7. If you are a displaced Federal employee you may be entitled to receive special priority selection under the Interagency Career Transition Program (ICTAP). To receive this priority consideration you must:
  - A. Be a displaced Federal employee. The following categories of candidates are considered displaced employees. You must submit a copy of the appropriate documentation such as RIF's separation letter, letter from OPM or your agency documenting your priority consideration status with your application package.
    1. Current or former career or career-conditional (tenure group I or II) competitive service employee who:
      - a. Received a RIF separation notice, or
      - b. Separated because of compensable injury, whose compensation has been terminated, and whose former agency certifies that it is unable to place; or
      - c. Retired with a disability and whose disability annuity has been or is being terminated.
      - d. Upon receipt of a RIF separation notice retired on the



10. Determining radiochemical or radionuclide purity of radiopharmaceuticals at the journeyman level.
11. Determining sterility of radiopharmaceuticals.
12. Operating liquid scintillation counters including quench correction.
13. Developing non-routine tests.
14. Performing red cell mass, ferrokinetics and red cell survival tests.
15. Troubleshooting instruments.
16. Performing quality control of basic procedures.
17. Performing computer processing of image data.
18. Determining the radiochemical or radionuclide purity of radiopharmaceuticals, under close supervision.
19. Performing basic radioimmunoassay (RIA) tests.
20. Performing T3 resin uptake and T4 competitive binding assays at the journeyman level.
21. Performing Renograms, Schilling tests and blood volume tests at the journeyman level.
22. Performing routine imaging procedures (organ scans), for example, brain, thyroid, lung, renal, liver, spleen, bones, cisternogram.
23. Operating rectilinear scanner and gamma camera at the journeyman level.
24. Calibrating instruments at the journeyman level.
25. Operating a dual-probe Whole Body Scanner, including positioning, collimation, and calibration.
26. Milking or eluting a technetium generator, checking for molybdenum break-through, at a trainee level.
27. Preparing patient doses from commercial kits or performing dose calibrations under close supervision.
28. Performing T3 resin uptake and T4 competitive protein binding tests.
29. Performing such tests as the Schilling Test or Blood Volume Test at the trainee level.
30. Operating either a Rectilinear Scanner or a Gamma Camera, Including positioning, collimation, recognizing malfunctions, etc. at an "intermediate" level.
31. Handling, storing, or disposing of radioactive materials.
32. Monitoring areas and/or personnel using area monitors, wipe tests, or personnel monitors.
33. Performing simple tests under close supervision.
34. Preparing samples of radioassay.
35. Basic operation of manual or automatic gamma-well counters.
36. Performing thyroid uptakes.
37. Operating a Rectilinear Scanner and/or Gamma Camera at the trainee level, (i.e. the applicant learns the basic scans, position, collimation, etc.)
38. Performing simple nuclear medicine tests under very close supervision.
39. Handling bed patients.
40. Developing X-ray film.

9. Indicate your geographic preference by either circling the number corresponding to the locality where you will accept employment or write the number on the front of your application package:

1. Downtown Los Angeles
2. West Los Angeles/Santa Monica Area
3. Long Beach/San Pedro Area
4. San Fernando Valley Area/Sepulveda
5. San Diego Area
6. Santa Barbara Area
7. Loma Linda/Riverside/San Bernardino Area
8. Southern Nevada (Las Vegas)
9. Bakersfield
10. Fresno
11. Los Banos
12. Auburn
13. Reno
14. Eureka
15. Redwood City
16. Rohnert Park
17. San Francisco
18. Santa Rosa
19. Benicia
20. Berkeley
21. Chico
22. Concord
23. Martinez
24. Oakland
25. Pleasant Hill
26. Travis Air Force Base in Fairfield
27. Redding
28. Sacramento
29. Vallejo
30. Livermore
31. Menlo Park
32. Hawaii
33. Guam
34. Samoa
35. Modesto
36. Monterey
37. Palo Alto
38. San Jose
39. Santa Cruz
40. Stockton

10. Indicate the hours and type of appointment you will accept by either circling the number corresponding to your availability or write your type of appointment availability on the front of your application package.

1. Full-time employment
2. Part-time employment 25 to 32 hours per week
3. Part-time employment 17 to 24 hours per week
4. Part-time employment 16 or less hours per week
5. Shift work
6. Intermittent
7. Temporary employment lasting 5 to 12 months.
8. Temporary employment lasting 1 to 4 months.
9. Temporary employment lasting less than 1 month.

WHERE TO OBTAIN FORMS: A copy of this announcement and the forms required to apply may be obtained from the following address:

DELEGATED EXAMINING UNIT, 05-DEU  
VA Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System  
11301 Wilshire Blvd.  
Bldg. 258, Room 128  
Los Angeles, CA 90073  
(310) 268-4150  
(310) 268-4929 FAX

WHERE TO FILE: Submit the completed application forms to the above address. Incomplete forms will delay eligibility. Applications mailed in government franked envelopes or faxes received from federal government agencies **will not be accepted** for employment consideration.

SALARY INFORMATION: For information regarding salary rates, please contact the Delegated Examining Unit.

UNITED STATES CITIZENSHIP REQUIRED  
AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER