STATE CENTER COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT
INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNICIAN – FARM LABORATORY

DEFINITION

Under direction assists in the operation and maintenance of the campus farm and equipment including preparing demonstrations for the class.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS

The Instructional Technician class is distinguished from the Instructional Aide class in that incumbents assigned to the class of Instructional Technician oversee complex instructional laboratories, possess specialized technical and academic training, and have experience in the assigned field. Additionally, the incumbent will provide administrative support for multiple instructors. Incumbents work independently and may provide instructional assistance to students and instructors in an instructional laboratory designated for a specific academic or vocational subject area. Instructional Technicians are responsible for applying district policies in regard to environmental, health, and safety regulations.

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES

Performs a variety of duties related to the farm lab including but not limited to: assisting with demonstration of proper techniques and use of tools and equipment for students during laboratory classes; maintaining farm crops and fields; preparing soil for planting, dicing, plowing, fertilizing, cultivating and irrigating; observing crops and soil; implementing schedule for cultivating, fertilizing and irrigating; planting crops and harvesting field crops; providing for the care and feeding of farm livestock; observing livestock for illness and unusual behavior; feeding and watering livestock; contracting farm labor services and monitoring the work of laborers; purchasing supplies for the farm; collecting, storing, and coordinating the disposal of hazardous chemicals and materials; assisting with managing and record keeping of toxic waste in accordance with regulations and other guidelines; and ensuring and enforcing security and safety of the lab according to established procedures, policies, and laws. Screening, selecting, training, evaluating, and providing work direction for student workers. Performing other duties as needed.

EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS

Education: Associate degree in agriculture or a related area.

Experience: Experience in farming related to row crops, trees, and vines including experience with open ditch, sprinkler, drip, and valve irrigation systems.

Certification: Possession of a valid state of California Qualified Applicator Certificate.

Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities: Knowledge of techniques and methods of modern farm operation; various irrigation systems; safety procedures for applying chemicals in a
farm environment; feeding and care of livestock; common illnesses and behavior of livestock; relationship of weather factors and irrigation schedules; methods for training and pruning vines and trees; soil cultural practices (scraping, ripping, discing, furrowing, harrowing); and health and safety regulations. Skill and/or Ability to: learn, apply, and utilize hardware and specialized software applications to create spreadsheets, databases, and produce reports; read and interpret technical material, such as labels on chemicals and farm implement manuals; communicate in English and Spanish to students, farm labor crew, and/or other staff members; perform mathematical calculations to measure chemicals properly; assign and review the work of other employees and students assigned to the department; clean, adjust, operate, and repair lab equipment; communicate effectively both orally and in writing; give clear and concise instructions; review and evaluate the work of students assigned by instructors; keep accurate records; effectively communicate with individuals for whom English is not a primary language; train and direct student aides; employ proper English usage, spelling, grammar, and punctuation; receive and follow instructions; appropriately interact with a diverse population to include students, staff, faculty, and the public; and learn and apply college and district policies and procedures.