

# Biosafety Officer

## Position Information

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**Department** Safety, Emergency, and Enterprise Risk Management (SEERM)

**Alternate Department Description** Environmental Health and Safety Office

**Criminal Background Check** Standard Background Check

**Motor Vehicle Background Check** Yes

**Statement of Economic Interest** Not Applicable

**Restricted Position?** No, is eligible for layoff or severance benefits.

**Job Category** Classified Staff

**Role (State) Job Title** Compliance/Safety Officer III

**Working Title** Biosafety Officer

**Job Type** Full-Time

**Position Number** 01452z

**Recruit Number** STF10928

### Working Hours

**Location** Prince William, VA

**Other Location** Also Fairfax campus

**Pay Band** Payband 4

**Salary** Commensurate with education and experience.

### Web Announcement

#### **Biosafety Officer**

The George Mason University Environmental Health and Safety Office (EHS), within the Department of Safety, Emergency, and Enterprise Risk Management, is seeking an individual for the position of Biosafety Officer. George Mason University has a strong institutional commitment to the achievement of excellence and diversity among its faculty and staff, and strongly encourages candidates to apply who will enrich Mason's academic and culturally inclusive environment.

#### **About the Position:**

The Biosafety Officer manages the biosafety program for biosafety level (BSL) 1 and 2 laboratories, and animal biosafety for animal biosafety levels (ABSL) 1-3, and serves as an Alternate Responsible Official (ARO) for the Select Agent Program. The position interprets and implements regulatory requirements and guidelines regarding biological safety, serves as administrator of the Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC), serves on the Institutional animal care and use committee (IACUC), advises the Institutional review board on biosafety-related matters, conducts risk assessments, laboratory inspections, and hazard evaluations, assists laboratories in optimizing safety and compliance for use of biohazardous material and research involving animals, oversees management of biological waste program provides training in all aspects of biosafety, responds to incidents as needed, and serves as alternate for the Responsible Official of the Select Agent Program and supports the select agent program requirements (lab inspections, training, inventory audits, exercises and drills, annual audit, document review, and incident investigations as needed).

#### **Required Qualifications:**

- Knowledge of computer applications including but not limited to: word processing, spreadsheets, email, image processing, and databases;
- General knowledge of chemical and radiation hazards;
- Extensive knowledge of biological hazards and biosafety principles and practices including knowledge of applicable regulations, guidelines, and standards for laboratory biosafety and biosecurity to include NIH Guidelines for Work involving Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acid Molecules, OSHA Bloodborne Pathogens Standard, Biosafety in Microbiology and Biomedical Laboratories, federal select agent regulations, and Virginia regulated medical waste regulations;
- Knowledge of safety practices related to the control of biological hazards;
- Knowledge of microbiology and recombinant/synthetic DNA technology;
- Knowledge of biosafety levels and facility requirements for BSL2/ABSL2, BSL3/ABSL3 laboratories;
- Knowledge of purpose, function, and use of engineering controls and primary containment devices;
- Knowledge of disinfection and decontamination methods;

- Ability to perform comprehensive risk assessment and determine appropriate risk management strategies to facilitate safe research;
- Ability to work collaboratively with faculty and staff to develop and implement best practices;
- Ability to prioritize and manage multiple complex projects;
- Ability to develop and implement administrative processes for select agent compliance;
- Ability to maintain accurate and current records;
- Ability to assist in the development and coordination of exercises and drills to test written plans and procedures;
- Ability to conduct detailed risk incident investigations into safety and compliance concerns;
- Ability to perform detailed laboratory inspections and audits of compliance programs;
- Ability to meet pre-access and ongoing suitability requirements for enrollment in the select agent program;
- Ability to work in the containment suite of the Biomedical Research Laboratory;
- Ability to communicate effectively through verbal and written communication;
- Ability to self-motivate and complete tasks without supervision;
- Ability to work cooperatively as part of a team;
- Ability to work well with coworkers;
- Ability to lift 40 lbs, bend, crawl, and kneel and receive required vaccinations required for entry into BSL-3 environments as needed;
- Ability to work and stand for extended periods of time;
- Ability to work after hours and varying hours when needed;
- Must meet the requirements of the George Mason University personnel suitability program;
- Valid VA driver's license;
- 40 Hour Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response or ability to obtain;
- DOT Hazmat General and Security Awareness as necessary;
- Security Risk Assessment Approval;
- Must live within 25 miles of the Science and Technology campus;
- Bachelor's degree in the life sciences or related field or equivalent education & experience is required; and
- Experience managing biosafety programs for Biosafety Level 1 and 2 and animal biosafety levels 1 and 2.

**Preferred Qualifications:**

- Master's degree in life sciences or related field;
- Experience at an institution of higher education;
- Certification in CPR/First Aid;
- Experience managing safety for Animal Biosafety level 3 laboratories strongly preferred; and
- Registered Biosafety Professional (RBP) certification and a minimum of five years of experience at an academic/higher education or private research environment is preferred.

<b>Special Instructions to Applicants</b>	For full consideration, applicants must apply for position number 01452z at <a href="http://jobs.gmu.edu/">http://jobs.gmu.edu/</a> ; complete and submit the online application; and upload a cover letter, resume, and a list of three professional references with contact information.
<b>For Full Consideration, Apply by:</b>	04/18/2022
<b>Posting Date</b>	03/31/2022
<b>Job Close Date</b>	
<b>Open Until Filled?</b>	Yes
<b>Telework Friendly?</b>	No
<b>Mason Ad Statement</b>	<p>Great Careers Begin at Mason!</p> <p>George Mason University is an innovative, entrepreneurial institution with national distinction in both academics and research. Mason holds a top <i>U.S. News and World Report</i> "Up and Coming" spot for national universities and is recognized for its global appeal and excellence in higher education.</p> <p>Mason is currently the largest and most diverse university in Virginia with students and faculty from all 50 states and 130 countries studying in over 200 degree programs at campuses in Arlington, Fairfax and Prince William, as well as at learning locations across the commonwealth. Rooted in Mason's diversity is a campus culture that is both rewarding and exciting, work that is meaningful, and opportunities to both collaborate and create.</p> <p>If you are interested in joining the Mason family take a look at our current opportunities and catch some Mason spirit at <a href="http://jobs.gmu.edu/">jobs.gmu.edu/</a>!</p> <p>George Mason University, Where Innovation is Tradition.</p>
<b>Equity Statement</b>	George Mason University is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer, committed to promoting inclusion and equity in its community. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, age, disability or veteran status, or any characteristic protected by law.
<b>Campus Safety Information</b>	<b>Mason's Annual Security and Fire Safety Report is available at <a href="http://police.gmu.edu/annual-security-report/">http://police.gmu.edu/annual-security-report/</a></b>

## Supplemental Questions

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Required fields are indicated with an asterisk (\*).

1. What are your salary expectations for this position?  
(Open Ended Question)

## Supplemental Documents

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**Required Documents**

1. Cover Letter
2. Resume
3. List of Professional References

**Optional Documents**