



Laboratory Specialist (Full Time)

Help optimize health outcomes for medically fragile babies while working in a positive, collaborative, and dynamic environment! The nonprofit Mid-Atlantic Mothers' Milk Bank is seeking a Laboratory Specialist to join its Lab Team. Given the unique nature of what we do, candidates from a variety of backgrounds will be considered. Education or experience in science or food production is required. Training is provided. New graduates are encouraged to apply.

About the Mid-Atlantic Mothers Bank and the Human Milk Science Institute and Biobank: Our nonprofit organization collects milk from carefully screened volunteer donors (milk donors are our heroes!). The donated milk is tested and pasteurized before it is distributed to neonatal intensive care units (NICUs) and outpatients with medical needs across PA, WV, MD, NJ, and DE. Housed within the milk bank, is the nonprofit Human milk Science Institute and Biobank (HMSIB, humanmilksamples.org) which works to bring down the barriers to human milk science by providing researchers with samples and data. The internal research of the milk bank is also done through the biobank.

Position Summary: Reporting to the Director of Operations this Laboratory Specialist position is a dual role with shared activities between the Milk Bank Lab and the HMSIB Lab. In the Milk Lab, the Laboratory Specialist performs all the laboratory duties pertaining to the processing and testing of human donor milk. The Lab Specialist is responsible for following all policies and procedures required to maintain compliance with the Human Milk Banking Association of North America (HMBANA) and applicable federal and state regulations. For the HMSIB Lab, the Laboratory Specialist is responsible for following all policies and procedures put in place for adherence to the IRB Protocol and Consent. Adherence to all laboratory SOPs is mandatory. This position is 75% milk bank and 25% biobank.

Responsibilities:

- Preparing lab for milk processing
- Preparation of deposited samples for thawing
- Pooling, mixing, and bottling thawed donor milk deposits
- Pasteurizing bottled milk
- Performing nutritional analysis using the Miris Human Milk Analyzer (spectrometer)
- Performing drug testing on milk pools using ELISA kits
- Preparing and applying labels for pasteurized milk bottles
- Preparing batch bottles and requisition forms for bacterial sample submissions
- Completion of lab cleaning, restocking, and maintenance schedules
- Monitoring of freezer/refrigerator alerts via Digi Smart Temps system
- Preparing and cataloging of samples and data for HMSIB (biobank) lab
- Consenting donors to HMSIB
- Updating HMSIB database
- Assisting Screening Team with sorting raw donations for making deposits
- Assisting Distribution Team with filling hospital or outpatient orders



- Limited communication with donors regarding milk distribution
- Other duties, as assigned.

Education:

Minimum of a Bachelor's degree preferred. Other combinations of education and experience will be considered. Pay and job duties will vary based on level of education and experience.

Experience:

- Lab experience (paid or academic) and/or food handling science experience is preferred
- Excellent organizational skills with exceptional attention to detail.
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office (Excel and Word)
- Experience with immunoassay technology, spectrometers, centrifuges, pipetting and dispensing pumps is helpful
- Food Handler's safety training required (provided)

Additional Requirements:

- Enthusiasm for the mission of Mid-Atlantic Mother's Milk Bank
- Ability to work well with others/teamwork
- Self-motivated, but can take direction from others
- Willingness to learn new skills and facets of the organization

Physical Requirements:

The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

- Ability to stand for long periods of time.
- Ability to lift 50 pounds.
- Speaking, hearing and visual acuity.
- Verbal and written English communication skills.

Work Hours: Monday through Friday, 8am to 4pm

Salary: \$19 to \$22 per hour

Work Location: 3127 Penn Avenue Pittsburgh, PA 15201

Benefits:

- Paid time off
- Healthcare Stipend
- Retirement (Simple IRA match)

Learn more about lifesaving donor milk at www.midatlanticmilkbank.org



Mid-Atlantic Mothers' Milk Bank is committed to providing equal opportunity for all employees and applicants without regard to race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status, sexual orientation, disability, political affiliation, personal appearance, family responsibilities, matriculation or any other characteristic protected under federal, state or local law. Each person is evaluated on the basis of personal skill and merit. MAMMB's policy regarding equal employment opportunity applies to all aspects of employment, including recruitment, hiring, job assignments, promotions, working conditions, scheduling, benefits, wage and salary administration, disciplinary action, termination, and social, educational and recreational programs.

COVID-19 Considerations: The milk bank follows all CDC and state recommendations to stop the spread of COVID-19. Staff are required to be vaccinated. Exemption process in place for those who cannot be vaccinated for medical or religious reasons.