The purpose of the veterinary pathologist occupation is to provide animal disease diagnosis, document findings & serve as lead worker & direct technical personnel in completion of section duties.

At the expert level, incumbents conduct detailed necropsy, biopsy & microscopic examinations.

At the administrative level, incumbents administer comprehensive veterinary diagnostic pathology program & supervise assigned veterinary pathology staff.
JOB DUTIES IN ORDER OF IMPORTANCE: (These duties are illustrative only. Incumbents may perform some or all of these duties or other job-related duties as assigned.)

Provides diagnostic veterinary pathology services, obtains case histories from animal owners & veterinarians submitting specimens (e.g., animals, tissues, feedstuffs) for diagnostic evaluations, conducts detailed necropsy, biopsy (i.e., macroscopic) & microscopic examinations & documents findings utilizing precise medical terminology, determines appropriate routine & specialized adjunct laboratory/diagnostic test procedures necessary to establish a case diagnosis (e.g., histopathology, microbiology, serology, clinical pathology, electron microscopy, other microscopic techniques), selects/collects appropriate specimens for diagnostic procedures for all support laboratories & serves as lead worker & directs technical personnel in pathology section in completion of section duties (e.g., coordinates test procedures).

Adheres to specific guidelines/regulations (e.g., animal disease regulatory programs; disease reporting) & disposes of casework accordingly; suggests &/or outlines changes affecting section or laboratory policies & procedures for improvement of diagnostic services & laboratory efficiency.

Acts as case coordinator to collect & interpret laboratory results from various support sections & compiles findings into detailed case reports; performs microscopic examinations of selected tissues/specimens & details morphologic findings in report form; gathers data from various reports & writes annual divisional report; utilizes computer in generation of laboratory data & reports; writes comprehensive medical reports to veterinarians, regulatory officials, livestock industry representatives & other interested entities regarding preliminary findings & results &/or finalized case findings & diagnosis.

Attends meetings, participates in training seminars, reviews current literature & consults with counterparts & specialists to maintain professional competency; participates in various professional organizations; serves as liaison (e.g., makes public speeches; develops posters & presentations for professional meetings; writes work-related reports/studies in professional journals; interacts with agents of livestock, poultry & other allied agricultural agencies, county extensions agents, vocational agriculture teachers/students & other agencies of agriculture); participates in student teaching/orientation & evaluation for university senior veterinary students.

MAJOR WORKER CHARACTERISTICS:

Knowledge of veterinary medicine; diagnostic veterinary pathology; manpower planning*; state & federal regulations applicable to practice of veterinary medicine & to regulation of livestock, poultry & meat industries; public relations. Skill in operation of microscopes; necropsy equipment (e.g., mechanical hoist; bandsaw; stryker saw; incinerator; surgical & necropsy instruments); computer; laboratory equipment (e.g., fume hoods; pH meters; electronic scales). Ability to apply existing theory & research findings to define unusual & complex problems, collect data, establish facts & draw conclusions; comprehend an extensive variety of highly complex & technical material; prepare meaningful, accurate & concise reports; handle sensitive inquiries from & contacts with animal owners & veterinarians; demonstrate dexterity to use hands skillfully.

(*)Developed after employment.

MINIMUM CLASS QUALIFICATIONS FOR EMPLOYMENT:

License to practice veterinary medicine issued by Ohio Veterinary Medical Board or eligibility for a license to practice veterinary medicine or possession of out-of-state license to practice veterinary medicine as issued by another state; eligibility for accreditation under CFR, Title 9, Part 161 issued by United States Department of Agriculture (i.e., U.S.D.A.); completion of graduate program in veterinary pathology; under supervision of board certified specialist from an accredited college of veterinary medicine &/or board certification in appropriate specialty.

-Or equivalent of Minimum Class Qualifications For Employment noted above.
TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT REQUIRED TO REMAIN IN THE CLASSIFICATION AFTER EMPLOYMENT:
Bi-annual renewal of license to practice veterinary medicine issued by Ohio Veterinary Medical Board or 30 hours of continuing education in veterinary medicine.

UNUSUAL WORKING CONDITIONS:
Requires travel; must provide own transportation; exposed to potential disease-producing agents (e.g., bacteria; viruses; parasites; chemicals; other intoxicants); exposed to laboratory atmosphere/environment of animal disease diagnostic laboratory; requires prophylactic vaccination for rabies.
JOB DUTIES IN ORDER OF IMPORTANCE: (These duties are illustrative only. Incumbents may perform some or all of these duties or other job-related duties as assigned.)

Administers comprehensive veterinary diagnostic pathology program for Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory, manages & directs pathology section operations & supervises assigned veterinary pathology staff.

Performs diagnostic services in veterinary pathology section (e.g., obtains case histories; conducts detailed necropsy & biopsy examinations & documents findings utilizing precise medical terminology); determines appropriate routing & specialized adjunct testing procedures necessary to establish case diagnosis (e.g., histopathology; parasitology; microbiology; virology; serology; toxicology; clinical pathology; immunohistochemistry; histochemistry; electron microscopy).

Selects specimens for diagnostic procedures; performs microscopic examinations of selected specimens & details morphologic findings in report form utilizing standardized medical terminology; acts as case coordinator to collect & interpret laboratory results from support sections.

Prepares comprehensive medical report to submit to veterinarians, regulatory officials & livestock industry representatives; participates in training seminars/meetings/conferences to maintain professional competency.

MAJOR WORKER CHARACTERISTICS:
Knowledge of veterinary medicine; diagnostic veterinary pathology; manpower planning*; supervisory principles & techniques*; state & federal regulations applicable to practice of veterinary medicine & to regulation of livestock, poultry & meat industries; public relations. Skill in operation of microscopes; necropsy equipment (e.g., mechanical hoist; bandsaw; stryker saw; incinerator; surgical & necropsy instruments); computer; laboratory equipment (e.g., fume hoods; pH meters; electronic scales). Ability to apply existing theory & research findings to define unusual & complex problems, collect data, establish facts & draw conclusions; comprehend extensive variety of highly complex & technical material; prepare meaningful, accurate & concise reports; handle sensitive inquiries from & contacts with animal owners & veterinarians; demonstrate dexterity to use hands skillfully.

(*)Developed after employment.

MINIMUM CLASS QUALIFICATIONS FOR EMPLOYMENT:
License to practice veterinary medicine issued by Ohio Veterinary Medical Board or eligibility for a license to practice veterinary medicine or possession of out-of-state license to practice veterinary medicine as issued by another state; eligibility for accreditation under CFR, Title 9, Part 161 issued by United States Department of Agriculture (i.e., U.S.D.A.); completion of graduate program in veterinary pathology; under supervision of board certified specialist from an accredited college of veterinary medicine &/or board certification in appropriate specialty; 5 yrs. trg. or 5 yrs. exp. working in veterinary diagnostic laboratory; 2 yrs. exp. in supervisory principles & techniques; 6 mos. exp. with OIE (Office of International Epizooties) quality standards for veterinary laboratories (e.g., Infectious Diseases).

-Or license to practice veterinary medicine issued by Ohio Veterinary Medical Board; accreditation under CFR, Title 9, Part 161 issued by U.S.D.A.; completion of graduate program in veterinary pathology from A.V.M.A. accredited college of veterinary medicine; eligibility status for board certification in veterinary pathology from A.C.V.P.; 5 yrs. trg. or 5 yrs. exp. working in veterinary diagnostic laboratory; 2 yrs. exp. in supervisory principles & techniques; 6 mos. exp. with OIE (Office of International Epizooties) quality standards for veterinary laboratories (e.g., Infectious Diseases).

-Or equivalent of Minimum Class Qualifications For Employment noted above.

TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT REQUIRED TO REMAIN IN THE CLASSIFICATION AFTER EMPLOYMENT:
Bi-annual renewal of license to practice veterinary medicine issued by Ohio Veterinary Medical Board or 30 hours of continuing education in veterinary medicine.

UNUSUAL WORKING CONDITIONS:
Requires travel; must provide own transportation; exposed to potential disease-producing agents (e.g., bacteria; viruses; parasites; chemicals; other intoxicants); exposed to laboratory atmosphere/environment of animal disease diagnostic laboratory; requires prophylactic vaccination for rabies.