

# Classified Position Request Form

**Instructions:** Complete one form for each classified position requested

**Formerly Eliminated Position (not in last year's budget)**

Title of Position Requested: Physics Laboratory Technician II

Program/Department/Area: Physics/Physical Science

Number of Hours per Week: 40

Number of Months per Year: 12

**Brief Abstract:** (How does position impact present area status, affect workload reduction, impact students or provide support/services?)

The Physics Laboratory Technician II position, which had been filled at Bakersfield College continuously since (at least as early as) 1969, was eliminated in 2009 due to budget cuts and not reopened. This technician was responsible for installing, maintaining, fabricating, diagnosing and repairing the mechanical, electrical and electronic equipment used in physics and physical sciences courses. This technician was also responsible for scheduling inspections of equipment for compliance with OSHA safety standards, recommending upgrades of equipment, performing repairs or modifications to equipment which might involve machining skills (lathe or mill work), electronics skills (troubleshooting, soldering, working with solvents and other such chemicals). This technician was also responsible for establishing and maintaining proper storage of and inventory for physics equipment. This technician was responsible for gathering equipment utilized in laboratory experiments done in physics and physical science classes and delivering it to the lab rooms in which it was to be used, and removing it upon completion.

**Impact on College/District if position is not filled:** (Include how having the position or not having the position impacts FTES, services to students.)

Since the elimination of this position in 2009, physics and physical science instructors have had to take over the responsibilities of the individual who filled this position. Due to the lack of some of the skills specific to this position, instructors have been confronted with situations in which they were not able to repair or replace laboratory equipment because of: (1) not being able to diagnose equipment problems, (2) not being able to do machine work to effectively repair damaged equipment, (3) not know what sources to use for specialty hardware for equipment repair, (4) not having the time to do maintenance or repair work that took a significant amount of time, and the like. Because of this, some laboratory experiments that utilized apparatus that was hard to maintain or repair were replaced by more convenient versions that did not require the skills of a laboratory technician to maintain. Some of these replacement laboratory exercises were poorer compromises as far as effective learning or compliance with what the C-ID descriptor showed for laboratory exercise content. In some cases simulations were used as replacements. Some of these simulations are suitable and effective, but some maybe not. A physics laboratory technician is an absolutely essential component of a physics department now that the number of physics instructors has gone from 2 to 5 within the last 6 months, and the number of physics students served should skyrocket.

**Total Cost:**

Salary	\$__45,430__
Benefits	\$__29,278__
Computer/office space etc.	\$__
<b>Total Amount:</b>	<b>\$__74,708__</b>