

NARA Competency Model

LM - Presidential Materials Division

Museum Technician (History) GS-05

Note: Competencies noted as "Not for selection" were rated as important to the job, but not required on entry and thus not to be used for screening candidates.

Core Competencies

Problem Solving (Thinks Analytically)

Seeks, examines, and interprets information from different sources to determine a problem's cause and develop a course of action for problem resolution. Analyzes information, develops and evaluates multiple solutions to a question or problem, and selects the most appropriate solution for the situation. Recommends innovative approaches to improve processes and results.

Interpersonal Skills (Collaborates Across Boundaries)

Works cooperatively with others across functions and geographic locations to achieve team and organizational goals. Builds and maintains strong relationships with others both internal and external to the organization. Seeks out and integrates diverse views and perspectives to enhance work quality and results.

Execution and Results (Takes Accountability for Results)

Takes ownership and accountability to ensure that work is completed accurately, efficiently, and in a timely manner, even when faced with multiple priorities. Identifies and uses the resources, tools, and information needed to achieve goals and objectives. Demonstrates flexibility, persistence, commitment, and initiative to resolve obstacles and respond to changing priorities.

Customer Service (Provides Customer Service)

Actively looks for ways to help internal and/or external customers locate information or resolve problems and issues. Gives full attention to what other people are saying, taking time to understand the points being made, asking questions as appropriate, and following up to ensure customer satisfaction. Provides information and resources to fulfill customer obligations and resolve customer complaints.

Communication (Communicates Openly)

Communicates opinions, facts, and thoughts with clarity, transparency, and honesty. Seeks diverse perspectives and listens openly to others' points of views. Demonstrates the courage to speak up on issues and risks as well as present good news. Researches information for and prepares documents and presentations that effectively convey relevant information.

Organizational Awareness (Demonstrates Organizational Awareness)

Demonstrates behaviors and actions that are aligned with the agency's mission and function, applying programs, policies, procedures, rules, and regulations to work activities. Places a high priority and focus on supporting NARA's mission and achieving agency goals. Considers the potential impact of external factors (for example, changes in legislation) on the needs and objectives of one's department and the agency as a whole.

General Competencies

Embraces Continual Learning

Seeks opportunities to expand knowledge and skills through formal and informal education, training, and feedback. Identifies and leverages own strengths and developmental needs and strives to improve own skills. Acquires new knowledge related to business, professional, and technological changes and developments. Demonstrates and supports continual learning, and shares knowledge and expertise with others.

Utilizes Computer Technology

Utilizes computer technology and software applications (e.g., word processing, spreadsheets, databases, web-based tools) to perform work activities. Applies technologies and/or tools to improve work, productivity, or customer service.

Technical Competencies

Performs Reference Services (Not for selection)

Provides reference services using knowledge of records and their context. Communicates with stakeholders (e.g., researchers) to determine their areas of interest. Conducts preliminary research and analysis for the purposes of reference. Makes recommendations based on findings, conclusions, resources (e.g., cost, time), organizational goals, and customer goals.

Conducts Outreach Activities (Not for selection)

Plans, implements, or participates in outreach services to groups outside of the agency about its holdings and collections. This includes preparing and giving talks or tours and developing or assisting with programs and events sponsored by the agency (e.g., exhibits, educational, public, and volunteer programs, workshops, open houses, funding, sponsorship).

Applies Knowledge of American History and Government (Not for selection)

Demonstrates expertise in American history and principles of American government. Demonstrates expertise on cultural, political, and economic history as well as topics of contemporary interest.

Designs, Fabricates, and/or Maintains Displays and Exhibits (Not for selection)

Performs or oversees the design, fabrication, production, installation, lighting, and/or maintenance of displays and exhibits. Develops displays and exhibits to support themes and reach target audiences. Assists with, performs, or coordinates the installation, de-installation, care, and/or security of permanent, temporary, and/or traveling exhibits. Creates method and material specifications that reflect an understanding of agency conservation, security and other infrastructure requirements.

Conducts Inventory (Not for selection)

Assists with or conducts reviews of holdings and/or collections, including examining and cataloging artifacts and preparing condition reports. Identifies, withdraws, and re-files materials from storage.

Manages Electronic Media Equipment (Not for selection)

Oversees or manages the operation of electronic media or interactive components of an exhibit and/or museum.

Develops Graphic Designs and Displays (Not for selection)

Creates or oversees the creation of printed, non-print, and electronic/online visual products (e.g., logos, stationery, administrative forms and certificates, invitations and programs, audiovisual presentations, signs, and/or websites), including layout, design, illustration, and photography, using graphic design and display principles, methods, techniques, and tools. Considers the audience to be reached, the purpose of the project, methods of distribution, costs, and agency policies.

Manages and/or Maintain Collections, Digital Assets, and Other Related Assets (Not for selection)

Oversees and/or performs collections management operations involving physical condition and safety/security, as well as automated catalog and retrieval systems, forms, legal documents, and files. Manages and/or supports the loan program. Conducts relevant research and analysis as part of these activities.

Links to Assessments (For Staffing Specialist Use Only):

[Job Analysis Worksheet](#)

[Competency Usage Plan](#)

[Occupational Questionnaire](#)

[Structured Interview Guide](#)