

Who we are:

Transportation is so basic that many of us overlook its overwhelming importance in our daily lives. Practically everything used in our homes, offices, or schools across Tennessee – from furniture to food items to clothing – requires a large and complex transportation network. The Tennessee Department of Transportation provides citizens of Tennessee and travelers with one of the best transportation systems in the country. TDOT is a multimodal agency with responsibilities in building and maintaining roads, aviation, public transit, waterways, railroads, cycling and walking. Our involvement ranges from airport improvements to funding transit buses to planning for river ports. The Department of Transportation has approximately 3,500 employees with four statewide region facilities in Knoxville, Chattanooga, Nashville, and Jackson. TDOT Aeronautics is located near the John C. Tune Airport in Nashville, TN.



Statewide Aviation Transportation Engineer

Aeronautics Division – Project Development and Delivery Section – Asset Management Team
\$115,008 annually

Job Overview

The Statewide Aviation Transportation Engineer will guide, mentor, and support best practices within the Asset Management Team of TDOT's Aeronautics Division. This position will develop policies, performance metrics, and standards that align with the Division's strategic vision, ensure consistency and compliance with applicable statewide policies and standards, and provide technical guidance and direction that promotes uniformity and consistency for the construction resources and performance targets used across Tennessee's public-use airports.

This position will develop and maintain department policies, discipline-specific technical guidance, procedures, and manuals to train and assist the Aeronautics Division in producing deliverables and implementing performance-based asset management strategies that focus on improving infrastructure condition, ensuring compliance, and maximizing efficiency in project planning and delivery. The Statewide Transportation Engineer will pilot national best practices, coordinate across project teams, and report and recommend ideas that drive innovation, consistency, and long-term aviation system resilience.

Essential Job Responsibilities

Establish and ensure that there is a direct relationship between infrastructure condition, performance targets, and work outcomes by developing and maintaining statewide metrics, standards, and guidance related to construction resources and asset management strategies. Contribute to the development and implementation of quality control processes that support improved safety, risk management, and consistent project delivery across Tennessee's public-use airports.

Support the development of Airport Capital Improvement Plans (ACIPs), Tennessee Aviation System Plan (TASP), and other planning documents and guide in contributing technical expertise related to construction standards, performance expectations, and asset condition targets; ensure the alignment of deliverables with state and federal funding objectives and project prioritization frameworks. Support the development and implementation of the Tennessee Aviation Asset Management Plan and performance-based tools by contributing to the development of visualizations, metrics, and evaluation frameworks that inform statewide strategies and capital investment decisions.

Assist in developing procurement plans and oversight of external partners for professional engineering services as part of the Brooks Act, or construction services. Provide support in developing Requests for Proposal (RFP), Requests for Qualifications (RFQ), Requests for Information (RFIs), Invitations to Bid (ITBs), and other contract solicitation processes. Assist in determining scoring or selection criteria, developing contract scopes of work, serving on selection committees, negotiating contracts, attending de-briefs with consultants/contractors, managing contract tasks, reviewing invoices, and completing consultant grading.

Guide efforts under the direction of the Project Development and Delivery Manager concerning new programs and processes to be developed by the matrix teams and implemented by the Project Delivery Team Lead in the Project Development and Delivery Section. Collaborate with Subject Matter Experts (SME) of their respective teams, on-call consultants, and the Senior Aviation Transportation Engineer. Participate in internal progress meetings with the Director, Managers, Team Leads, SMEs, and engage in external discussions with working groups and the Tennessee Aeronautics Commission to provide input and support strategic decision-making.

Routinely identify, document, and collaborate with internal and external partners on acquired knowledge that supports programmatic improvements, including lessons learned, process innovations, national best practices, and industry trends that improve airport project planning and decision-making. Guide the effort in modifications to all applicable policies, procedures, design standards, specifications, and special provisions. Assist the Manager concerning communication to the industry through Engineering and Development updates and guide the monthly webinar trainings.

Assist on Project Teams as part of a matrix organization by providing subject matter expertise for capital planning and performance evaluation; define performance-based expectations in collaboration with Project Managers to support project scope, schedule, budget, and quality outcomes.

Provide exceptional customer service to both internal and external customers, exercising effective listening skills, providing prompt responses, maintaining complete and accurate documentation, providing training and guidance, and communicating effectively.

Remain current on applicable state and federal policies, specifications, and legislation related to asset management, capital improvement planning, and infrastructure performance; ensure that technical guidance and standards reflect current regulations and evolving expectations in the aviation industry. Collaborate on innovative strategies used as best practices for statewide quality assurance needs.

Assist with training efforts related to asset performance, construction resource planning, and technical policy implementation by integrating acquired knowledge, regulatory guidance, and emerging technologies for the purpose of improving team performance, encouraging consistency, and promoting professional development within the Aeronautics Division.

Ensure that deliverables are consistent, predictable, and repeatable to provide consistently high levels of achievement, mitigation of risk, and an established track record of success. Contribute to policy development that promotes standardized documentation, consultant submittal requirements, and effective use of data systems across the Division.

Qualifications

- Bachelor's degree in engineering
- Licensed Professional Engineer (PE)

- 12 years of demonstrated competency in developing and/or constructing transportation projects

Ideal Candidate

The Statewide Aviation Transportation Engineer plays a key role in shaping policy, driving technical consistency, and advancing performance-based practices for Tennessee's public-use airport system. The ideal candidate is an analytical and solution-oriented thinker who brings initiative, professionalism, and a collaborative spirit to their work. They are effective communicators who build strong relationships, translate complex technical information into actionable direction, and support team cohesion through clear and thoughtful engagement. Organized and detail-driven, they consistently deliver high-quality, repeatable outcomes and demonstrate a strong commitment to continuous improvement. With a growth mindset and a dedication to public service, the ideal candidate contributes to a high-performing team and supports the long-term success of the Aeronautics Division.