

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 Technical Specialist - NEPA
Environmental Division – NEPA and Quality Section
Nashville, TN
\$99,864 annually

Job Overview

The NEPA Statewide Technical Specialist supports the implementation of innovative concepts that improve performance and increase the sustainability of TDOT's transportation system related to the coordination and documentation of environmental reviews for TDOT transportation projects. The position administers the program consistent with Federal and State law while serving as TDOT's liaison with the Regions. The Statewide Technical Specialist role requires collaboration with multiple TDOT Divisions, project team members, consultants, and other external stakeholders.

The NEPA Statewide Technical Specialist ensures Department policies, technical guidance, procedures, software, and systems related to NEPA are current and accurate for incorporation into the project delivery process. This position assists in implementing the Quality Assurance Program as part of the Environmental Division activities to reduce errors, delays, and contractor claims. This position provides statewide guidance and oversight of NEPA strategies and methodologies. The NEPA Statewide Technical Specialist assists with monitoring and managing the scope, schedule, and budgets of all NEPA related projects and working with the Project Management Division to make the required adjustments as necessary to ensure that the work completed is in alignment with the Environmental Division's goals.

Essential Job Responsibilities

Integrate environmental considerations and statutory and regulatory requirements into TDOT's NEPA and TEER documents for capital, operations, and facilities projects.

Participate in the Project Teams as part of a matrix organization consistent with the Project Delivery Network (PDN), delivering all products and services as required and providing input at all applicable project milestones including Project Kick-Off, Risk Workshops, Project Scoping Meetings, Field Reviews and Plans, Specs and Estimates meeting.

Coordinate with appropriate Federal and State agencies and the public during the development of environmental documents.

Conduct and/or coordinate NEPA assessments for TDOT Alternative Delivery Contracting projects.

Effectively coordinate with Air Quality, Noise, and Hazardous Materials; Cultural Resources; Ecology; and Mitigation in developing NEPA study documents. Assist Local Governments with NEPA documentation and compliance for Local Programs Projects.

Serve on selection committees for professional engineering services which includes assistance with RFP development, attendance at project-specific marketing meetings, assistance with determining scoring criteria, assistance with project information sessions, serving as a scorer as part of the consultant acquisition process, and attendance at de-briefs for consultants where usable feedback must be provided.

Develop, implement, and maintain statewide policies that promote uniformity and consistency of NEPA documents. Manage and direct consultants preparing NEPA documents and activities. Research and implement emerging technologies that improve efficiency, effectiveness, reliability, and safety of TDOT's transportation network.

Routinely identify, document, and effectively collaborate with HQ and Asset Management on acquired knowledge that includes maximizing project successes, acknowledging national best practices, and avoiding past errors. Assist with modifications to all applicable policies, procedures, design standards, specifications, and special provisions.

Provide exceptional customer service to both internal and external customers, including mentoring and technical guidance, coordinating with other disciplines as part of a matrix organization, exercising effective listening skills, providing prompt responses, maintaining complete and accurate documentation, and communicating effectively.

Assist in the development of training related to NEPA processes and documentation that address acquired knowledge, asset management objectives, risk management, technical design elements, and emerging technologies related to transportation for the purpose of improving team performance, creating a stronger understanding of the transportation industry, inspiring new ideas, and developing skills.

Assist in ensuring NEPA deliverables are consistent, predictable, and repeatable to provide for high levels of achievement, mitigation of risk, and an established track record of success.

Qualifications

- Bachelor's degree
- 8 years of demonstrated competency in an environmental program

OR

- Master's degree
- 7 years of demonstrated competency in an environmental program

Ideal Candidate

The NEPA Statewide Technical Specialist is an expert in handling high-pressure situations and is skilled in analyzing and resolving complex issues related to NEPA requirements. They are known to be great collaborators, fostering effective communication and collective expertise to achieve goals. They understand the importance of teamwork and are dedicated to working in a team, while also maintaining good coordination and cooperation with stakeholders.