

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.



Planning Data Senior Technical Specialist

Planning Division – Roadway Data Section, Planning Data
\$75,204 annually

Job Overview

The Planning Data Senior Technical Specialist maintains system-wide transportation data and serves as the subject matter expert for roadway data integration. This position is responsible for ensuring the quality, integrity, accuracy, and completeness of transportation data, providing a reliable foundation for TDOT's planning and operational efforts, supporting data-driven decisions, and complying with Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) reporting requirements.

The Planning Data Senior Technical Specialist position requires frequent collaboration with TDOT Divisions and Regions, FHWA, and various local and regional public agencies. This position must effectively articulate planning data concepts through training, mentoring, and collaborating as part of a matrix organization.

Essential Job Responsibilities

Manage the quality of traffic data collection of the statewide roadway network by utilizing functionality in the Tennessee Traffic Information Management and Evaluation System (TN-TIMES) to support system-wide analysis and informed decisions and to comply with federal requirements.

Perform corridor balancing to calculate Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT), join and reformat data from the Linear Referencing System (LRS) and TN-TIMES, and incorporate AADT data for local roads to improve the reliability of traffic models and analyses.

Verify data integrity of traffic counts, including short-term traffic data and data collected by Automatic Traffic Recorders (ATRs), Embedded Detection Loops (EDLs), and future Weigh-In-Motion devices.

Develop traffic statistics reports, including the Vehicle Miles Traveled, Vehicle Class, Off-system, and Reassessment reports and format them for the Highway Performance Monitoring System (HPMS) for compliance with federal reporting standards and to remain eligible for federal funding.

Assist in the coordination and development of required datasets from the Roadway database, LRS, reassessment reports, partners, and stakeholders for the annual HPMS submittal to FHWA, ensuring enhanced data quality, data integrity, accuracy, timeliness, and completeness of datasets for submittal.

Assist the Division Director, Manager, and Team Lead in the development and delivery of planning data training and technical guidance that addresses acquired knowledge and risk management, inspiring new program and project processes, procedures and emerging technologies, and developing skills. Provide expertise, training, and mentoring to TDOT staff regarding planning data issues and considerations.

Provide exceptional customer service to both internal and external customers by exercising effective listening skills and providing prompt responses.

Promote and encourage the pursuit of excellence in alignment with TDOT's visions. Assist with the development and execution of quality management procedures for planning data activities to ensure a high level of quality, achievement, and implementation. Consistently work to improve processes that support quality deliverables.

Remain current with national and regional applicable planning data initiatives and trends. Assist in developing, maintaining, and updating TDOT's policies, methods, procedures, and guidelines for the efficient and effective management of planning data activities in conformance and compliance with federal and state requirements and TDOT policies.

Qualifications

- Bachelor's degree
- 3 years of demonstrated competency in State and Regional Transportation Planning, Geographic Information Systems (GIS), Statistics or Mathematics, Data or Computer Science, or a related field

OR

- Master's degree
- 2 years of demonstrated competency in State and Regional Transportation Planning, Geographic Information Systems (GIS), Statistics or Mathematics, Data or Computer Science, or a related field

Ideal Candidate

The Planning Data Senior Technical Specialist is highly organized and experienced in traffic data collection and statistics. They possess excellent communication and interpersonal skills and coordinate with multiple stakeholders effectively. They are committed to fostering collaboration and promoting transparency and thrive in a dynamic, team-oriented environment. The Planning Data Senior Technical Specialist brings a passion for advancing sustainable, equitable, and efficient transportation systems. They demonstrate strong analytical skills, proficiency in data management tools, and the ability to leverage data to inform decision-making and optimize processes. They understand that the best outcomes are achieved through collective effort and effective communication.