

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 Planning Senior Technical Specialist

Planning Division – Statewide Planning and Program Development Section
Nashville, TN
\$75,204 annually

Job Overview

The Statewide Planning Senior Technical Specialist serves as the subject matter expert for statewide transportation planning. This position is responsible for a coordinated long-term transportation vision that meets the needs of present and future population and employment, guides investments, ensures efficient use of resources, promotes sustainability and resiliency, and addresses equity in alignment with local, regional, and state priorities while maintaining compliance with federal requirements.

The Statewide Planning Senior Technical Specialist position requires frequent collaboration with TDOT Divisions and Regions, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), and various local, regional, and state agencies. This position must effectively articulate statewide planning concepts through training, mentoring, and collaborating as part of a matrix organization.

Essential Job Responsibilities

Assist the Statewide Planning Team Lead with developing all statewide and TDOT-initiated systems and integrated multi-modal transportation plans, including the Statewide Long-Range Transportation Plan (SLRTP), strategic corridor and regional transportation studies, and other statewide policy plans and initiatives that provide overarching strategies for future directions and discuss options for proceeding.

Coordinate the development of the SLRTP with other TDOT Divisions to ensure strategic focus on performance-based, data-driven decision-making throughout the planning and programming processes.

Conduct research, analyze data, develop forecasts and development trends, provide data-driven recommendations and funding options, develop transportation alternatives and travel demand management strategies to achieve TDOT goals.

Provide technical expertise of program and project responsibilities, participate on development teams to ensure all plans are integrated, complimentary, and considered during long-term and near-term planning activities. Monitor and adjust planning programs to ensure timeliness, relevancy, and accuracy in addressing current and future transportation needs.

Provide information and outreach activities to the public and governmental agencies regarding transportation system-related matters and services.

Manage external partners, including developing and advising on contract scopes of work, negotiating contracts/grants, reviewing consultant contract/grant invoicing, managing contract/grant tasks, and completing consultant grading.

Assist the Division Director, Manager, and Team Lead in the development and delivery of statewide planning 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 statewide planning issues and considerations.

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

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

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

Qualifications

- Bachelor's degree
- 3 years of demonstrated competency in State and Regional Transportation Planning, Land Use and Community Planning, Public Administration, Business Administration, or a related field

OR

- Master's degree
- 2 years of demonstrated competency in State and Regional Transportation Planning, Land Use and Community Planning, Public Administration, Business Administration, or a related field

Ideal Candidate

The Statewide Planning Senior Technical Specialist is strategic, forward-thinking, and well-versed in sustainable, resilient transportation strategies. They are skilled in data-driven decision-making and excel at creating long-term, coordinated visions for transportation systems that address current and future needs of Tennessee's diverse population. They thrive in environments that require stakeholder engagement and collaboration across multiple levels of government and agencies. The Statewide Planning Senior Technical Specialist possesses exceptional communication and outreach skills, enabling them to clearly articulate transportation strategies and engage with diverse stakeholders.