

## 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 Intern**  
**Bureau Chief Engineering**  
Location: Nashville, TN  
Compensation: \$22.00/hourly

### Overview

The Tennessee Department of Transportation is currently hiring student interns, located in downtown Nashville, TN. TDOT is seeking to develop an “Electric Vehicle Fire Action Plan” in response to the increase in the number of electric vehicles along Tennessee roadways. As electric vehicle batteries burn brighter, longer, and hotter than conventional vehicles – they pose a significant hazard when accidents occur to the public and EMS who arrive first on the scene. This action plan should outline a comprehensive background of the issue, what other states have done to mitigate this issue and the successes or failures of these methods (i.e. purchasing fire blankets, training EMS workers on the issue, etc.), and what the recommended TDOT course of action is. This intern shall thoughtfully approach policy, regulatory, or statutory options available to TDOT to better engage with significant safety events.

### Responsibilities

- Conduct research on electric vehicle (EV) batteries, including types, placement, safety hazards, and emergency response regulations.
- Develop a comprehensive literature review or white paper analyzing the issue, historical context, and other states’ approaches.
- Utilize LexisNexis and other research platforms to compile relevant regulatory and policy information.
- Evaluate two strategic alternatives—requiring legislation/rule changes vs. policy-based solutions—and assess pros and cons.
- Create a strategic action plan for implementing the preferred hazard mitigation approach to support maintenance and traffic operations.

### Minimum Qualifications

- Engineering, Political Science, Communications, or Pre-Law major required
- Junior, or Senior Class Status required as of May 2026 OR recent Graduate as of Spring 2025.
- Legally authorized to work in the U.S.
- Legal research, creative problem solving, communication, time management, critical thinking skills preferred.

To be considered for this position, please visit the [TDOT Summer Internship Program](#) website and submit an application..

**Please attach a two (2) page maximum résumé and a transcript to your application.**

*Pursuant to the State of Tennessee’s Workplace Discrimination and Harassment policy, the State is firmly committed to the principle of fair and equal employment opportunities for its citizens and strives to protect the rights and opportunities of all people to seek, obtain, and hold employment without being subjected to illegal discrimination and harassment in the workplace. It is the State’s policy to provide an environment free of discrimination and harassment of an individual because of that person’s race, color, national origin, age (40 and over), sex, pregnancy, religion, creed, disability, veteran’s status or any other category protected by state and/or federal civil rights laws.*