
Announcement Number: Reg 9-DE-2008-0035

Vacancy Information

Announcement Number: Reg 9-DE-2008-0035

Vacancy Description: Interdis. Env Engr/Sci, GS-819/1301- 11 / 12 (Air)

Open Period: Mon Sep 29 00:00:00 EDT 2008 - Fri Oct 10 00:00:00 EDT 2008

Series/Grade: GS-0819/1301-11/12

Salary: \$63,811.00 TO \$99,431.00

Promotion Potential: 12

Duty Locations: 10 vacancies in San Francisco County, CA

Additional Information

Who May Apply:

Any U.S. citizen may apply.

NOTE: This position is also being announced under Delegated Examining procedures under announcement number Reg 9-MP-2008-0096. To be considered under multiple announcements, applicants must apply separately under each.

Job Summary:

Earth Day is every day at EPA! Our diverse workforce connects to more than just a career—we share a common passion to promote a cleaner healthier environment. Join our team of over 18,000 people who are effectively influencing environmental safety. Discover how exciting safeguarding our natural resources and protecting human health can be. We consistently rank as one of the top Federal agencies in which to work, with great benefits and work flexibilities.

This is an ideal position for a Mid-Career or Senior Environmental Engineer/Scientist. Make a difference today... choose EPA, where your efforts result in a better world for everyone. As an EPA employee, you can anticipate regular pay increases, a great retirement plan that is portable, and the opportunity to pursue advancement and to broaden your career in other EPA organizations or locations.

In San Francisco, EPA employs more than 800 employees in a variety of complex and challenging career fields. Many positions require travel to locations affected by environmental problems. We deal with a host of environmental issues which includes hazardous waste and water contamination, as well as pesticides and air pollution problems.

You

will be given an opportunity to facilitate public involvement and lead various environment activities. We seek ambitious and career minded individuals to help us carry out our crucial mission of protecting the environment.

EPA Region 9 includes the states of California, Arizona, Nevada, Hawaii and the U. S. Pacific rim which includes Guam, American Samoa, and the Marianas Islands. Our regional office is conveniently located near downtown San Francisco, the Moscone Convention Center Complex, Yerba Buena Gardens and the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art. In addition to hosting an on-site fitness center, we are also in close proximity to several local and national health and fitness centers and a variety of world class restaurants.

ORGANIZATIONAL LOCATION AND DUTY STATION OF POSITION: These positions are located in the Air Division, San Francisco, CA

Key Requirements:

- * Bargaining Unit: Engineers and Scientists of California (ESC)
- * Medical Monitoring: No, except Enforcement Office
- * Drug Testing: No
- * Financial Disclosure: No
- * One Year Probationary Period: Yes, if applicable
- * Position Sensitivity Level: Nonsensitive

Position Information:

Full-time

Permanent

Major Duties:

This vacancy announcement will be used to fill positions available in many offices within the Air Division. Typical work responsibilities include:

Planning

Staff in the planning office work with our regulatory partners (state and local agencies) to develop air quality plans. These plans are the roadmap that guides an area from unhealthy to healthy air for its residents. Essential skills include an ability to understand regulations and law, and apply them to complex situations in areas with the greatest public health issues from air pollution in the country.

Permits

Staff in the permits office work with our regulatory partners to ensure that new stationary source construction (eg, refineries and power plants) are built with state of the art air pollution controls. They do that through development of appropriate rules, through review of proposed permits, through evaluations of the state and local agency's overall permit programs, and by issuing permits where those agencies do not yet have authority. Essential skills include an ability to understand regulations and law, to understand a variety of industrial processes

Enforcement

Our enforcement office ensures that the law is meaningful by finding those companies that don't follow the Clean Air Act and correcting the violation, and punishing the company responsible. We also serve as the "gorilla in the closet," so that our state and local partners enforce with less fear of political consequences. Essential skills include an ability to understand regulations and law, to understand a variety of industrial processes, and the ability to reduce large amounts of data to determine if violations have occurred.

Clean Energy and Climate Change

Certain types of pollution sources are not subject to regulation, or are very difficult to regulate. In our quest to reduce public health impact of air pollution and climate change, we are looking at incentives, partnerships and outreach as key parts of our toolbox. We have a major program to reduce diesel emissions from the millions of trucks, buses, trains and ships that are currently in operation through the West Coast Collaborative, and to reduce greenhouse gases by providing information on ways to improve process efficiency in a variety of industries. Essential skills include an ability to work creatively and collaboratively with a large variety of stakeholders, and, for those involved in our outreach efforts, journey level knowledge of industrial processes is extremely helpful.

Qualifications and Evaluations:

BASIC QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must meet the following basic educational requirements:

Environmental Engineer:

A. Successful completion of an undergraduate or higher degree in environmental engineering or a related engineering discipline (e.g. chemical, civil, etc.) from an accredited college or university. To

be acceptable, the curriculum must: (1) be in a school of engineering with at least one curriculum accredited by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET) as a professional engineering curriculum; or (2) include differential and integral calculus and courses (more advanced than first-year physics and chemistry) in five of the following seven areas of engineering science or physics; (a) statics, dynamics; (b) strength of materials (stress-strain relationships); fluid mechanics, hydraulics; (d) thermodynamics; (e) electrical fields and circuits; (f) nature and properties of materials (relating particle and aggregate structure to properties); and (g) any other comparable area of fundamental engineering science or physics, such as optics, heat transfer, soil mechanics, or electronics; OR

B. Combination of education and experience - college-level education, training, and/or technical experience that furnished (1) a thorough knowledge of the physical sciences underlying professional engineering, and (2) a good understanding, both theoretical and practical, of the engineering sciences and techniques and their application to one of the branches of engineering. The adequacy of such background must be demonstrated by one of the following:

1. Professional registration - Current registration as a professional engineer by any State, the District of Columbia, Guam, or Puerto Rico. Absent other means of qualifying under this standard, those applications who achieved such registration by means other than written test (e.g. state, grandfather, or eminence provisions) are eligible only for positions that are within or closely related to the specialty field of their registration. For example, an applicant who attains registration through a State Board's eminence provision as a manufacturing engineer typically would be rated eligible only for manufacturing engineering positions.

2. Written test - Evidence of having successfully passed the Engineer-in-Training (EIT) examination, or the written test required for professional registration, which is administered by the Boards of Engineering Examiners in the various States, the District of Columbia, Guam, and Puerto Rico. Applicants who have passed the EIT examination and have completed all the requirements for either (a) a bachelor's degree in engineering technology (BET) from an accredited college or university that included 60 semester hours of courses in the physical and engineering sciences, or (b) a BET from a program accredited by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET) may be rated eligible for certain engineering positions at GS-

5. Eligibility is limited to positions that are within or closely

related to the specialty field of the engineering technology program. Applicants for positions that involve highly technical, research, development, or similar functions requiring an advanced level of competence in basic science must meet the basic requirements in paragraph A.

Because of the diversity in kind and quality of BET programs, graduates of other BET programs are required to complete at least 1 year of additional education or highly technical work experience of such nature as to provide reasonable assurance of the possession of the knowledge, skills, and abilities required for professional engineering competence. The adequacy of this background must be demonstrated by passing the EIT examination.

3. Specified academic courses - Successful completion of at least 60 semester hours of courses in the physical and engineering sciences and in engineering that included the courses specified in the basic requirements. The courses must be fully acceptable toward meeting the requirements of a professional engineering curriculum as described in paragraph A.

4. Related curriculum - Successful completion of a curriculum leading to a bachelor's degree in engineering technology or in an appropriate professional field, e.g., physics, chemistry, hydrology, or geology, may be accepted in lieu of a degree in engineering, provided the applicant has had a least 1 year of professional engineering experience acquired under professional engineering supervision and guidance. Ordinarily there should be either an established plan of intensive training to develop professional engineering competence, or several years of prior professional engineering-type experience, e.g., in interdisciplinary positions.

Environmental Scientist:

A. Successful completion of an undergraduate or higher degree in physical sciences or engineering that included 24 semester units in physical sciences (e.g., chemistry, hydrology, geology, etc.) and/or engineering sciences (e.g., mechanics, dynamics, properties of materials, electronics, etc.) OR

B. Combination of education and experience - education equivalent to one of the majors shown in A above that included at least 24 semester hours in physical science and/or related engineering science, plus appropriate experience or additional education.

As this position has a positive education requirement, proof of

Announcement Number: Reg 9-DE-2008-0035

successful completion of required course work MUST be provided to determine if you meet the basic qualification requirements for the position. Without this proof, your application will be rated ineligible. You must provide a copy of your school/college transcripts or a list of courses including course title, credit hours, and grade. You must submit your required proof as described in the Required Documentation section. Be sure to include the vacancy announcement number on your documents.

Foreign Education: If you are qualifying for this position in part based upon the completion of a foreign degree, applicants must have their foreign education certified by an accredited American Academic Institute or private credentials evaluation service. Reference: www.opm.gov/qualifications/Sec-II/s2-e4.htm#e4a (Mandatory, if applicable - Failure to submit by the closing date will result in an ineligible rating.)

In addition to applicable positive education requirements, applicants must meet the specialized experience requirements, including any selective placement factor(s), described in this announcement and U.S. Office of Personnel Management's Operating Manual for Qualifications Standards (www.opm.gov/qualifications/index.htm) by the close of the announcement. Federal employee applicants must also meet all applicable eligibility requirements (e.g. qualification, time-in-grade and time-after competitive appointment requirements) within 30 calendar days of the closing date of this announcement. Part-time experience is prorated in crediting experience (e.g., if you work 20 hours per week for 12-months period you will be credited with 6 months of experience). Education must be in course work listed under "Basic Qualification Requirements."

GS-11: Ph.D. or equivalent doctorate degree, or three full years of progressively higher level graduate education from an accredited college or university leading to such a degree; OR

One year of full-time specialized experience equivalent to the GS-9 level in the federal service that demonstrates the use of an engineering/scientific discipline implementing at least one environmental program (e.g., water, air, waste, pesticides, toxics, etc.) in an environmental field (e.g., inspections, enforcement, permitting, program development, etc.); OR

A combination of education and experience. Only graduate education in excess of two years (36 semester units) will be considered when combining education and experience. Education must be in course work

listed under "Basic Qualification Requirements."

GS-12: One year of full-time specialized experience equivalent to the GS-11 level in the federal service that demonstrates experience working with state, local and/or tribal governments in coordinating and implementing Clean Air Act (or equivalent regulatory) programs requiring knowledge of engineering and/or scientific principles, practices and theories. Education may not be substituted for specialized experience at the GS-12 level.

How You Will Be Evaluated:

Applicants will be rated on the extent and quality of experience, education, and training relevant to the duties of the position. Eligible applicants will receive a numerical rating based on their responses to the application questions for this position submitted on-line via USAJOBS. These responses must be substantiated by your on-line resume. Applicants who do not respond to the application questions or partially respond to the application questions may be rated ineligible or your score may be lowered. Be sure sure that your resume clearly supports your responses to all questions by addressing experience and education relevant to the position. If you exaggerate or falsify your experience and/or education, you may be removed from employment consideration. You should make a fair and accurate assessment of your qualifications.

How to Apply:

NOTE: USAJOBS recently implemented a feature which permits you to upload certain documents to your account. Please note at this time the Environmental Protection Agency is not accepting online attachment documents. It is important that you carefully read and follow the instructions in the Required Documents section to ensure your supporting documentation is received in our office so you will receive appropriate consideration for this position.

1. Resume and application questions for this vacancy MUST be received on-line via the web BEFORE midnight Eastern Time on the closing date of this announcement. If you fail to submit a COMPLETE online resume, you WILL NOT be considered for this position. Paper applications WILL NOT be accepted and requests for extensions WILL NOT be granted. If applying online poses a hardship to any applicant, the servicing Human Resources Office listed on the announcement will provide assistance to ensure that applications are submitted online by the closing date. Applicants MUST CONTACT the servicing Human Resources Office PRIOR TO THE CLOSING DATE to speak to someone who can provide assistance for online submission.

2. Submit all required supplemental application materials (see Required Documents) by the closing date of the announcement including Saturdays, Sundays, or government holidays). Supplemental application materials must be sent to either the contact address or fax number identified below and must include your name and the announcement number for which applying. Any materials received after the closing date of the announcement will not be accepted. Failure to clearly mark each document with your name and announcement number may result in your application not being accepted for employment consideration. Failure to submit supplemental information may result in an ineligible rating.

ADDITIONAL APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS:

Please include your name and the announcement number on each page of your documentation to ensure proper processing of your application. Supplemental materials not properly labeled or received after the closing date will not be considered.

Please do not submit any additional documentation which has not been requested in this announcement. For example, do not submit copies of resume, performance appraisals, awards, training certificates, writing samples, or any other non-requested materials.

FAX NUMBER: 415-947-8024

MAILING ADDRESS:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9
Human Resources Office, MTS-8
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

WHERE TO OBTAIN MORE INFORMATION

You may search www.usajobs.opm.gov or you may call our office at (415) 972-3817.

Required Documents:

The position requires the completion of specific college course work listed under "Basic Qualification Requirements." You must submit a copy of your college transcripts or provide a list of completed college courses. A list of college courses must identify the department under which the college course was taken, course number, and number of semester or quarter units completed. (Mandatory - Failure to submit by the closing date may result in an ineligible rating.)

Candidates claiming veteran preference must submit the following information in order to receive preference.

DD-214 Discharge Papers

SF-15 Application for 10 point Veterans Preference (Mandatory if applicable)

Supporting documentation as required by SF-15 (Mandatory if applicable)

If you are claiming 10 point Veterans Preference and do not submit the SF-15 and supporting documentation listed above, you will be given Tentative Preference (5-point Veterans Preference).

(Reference <http://www.opm.gov/veterans/html/vetsinfo.pdf>)

DISPLACED EMPLOYEES REQUESTING SPECIAL SELECTION PRIORITY CONSIDERATION UNDER THE INTERAGENCY CAREER TRANSITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (ICTAP).

If you are a displaced Federal employee, you may be entitled to receive special priority selection under the ICTAP. You will not receive priority consideration under ICTAP eligibility unless you submit all supporting documentation as indicated below. To receive this priority consideration you must:

1. Be a displaced Federal employee within the commute area within the last year. You must submit a copy of the appropriate documentation such as a RIF separation notice, Notification of Personnel Action (SF-50) stating you were separated by RIF, a letter from OPM or your agency documenting your priority consideration status.
2. Apply for a position at or below the grade level of the position from which you have been separated. The position must not have a greater promotion potential than the position from which you were separated. If you are applying for a position with higher promotion potential, you will not be given priority consideration however, will be given consideration under the Delegated Examining process.
3. Have a current (or last) performance rating of record of at least fully successful or equivalent. This must be submitted with your application package. (This requirement does not apply to candidates who are eligible due to compensable injury or disability retirement.)
4. Occupy or be displaced from a position within the local commuting area.

5. Meet minimum qualification requirements including any selective factor, if applicable, and be rated well-qualified (score minimum 85) for the position.

For more information on ICTAP eligibility requirements, please visit <http://www.opm.gov/ctap/index.htm>.

What to Expect Next:

Once your complete application is received, we will conduct an evaluation of your qualifications and determine your ranking. All applicants will be notified of the final status of this vacancy announcement through e-mail.

Benefits:

As a Federal government employer, the EPA offers a number of exceptional benefits to its employees. The following web address is provided for your reference to explore the major benefits offered to most Federal employees.

<http://www.usajobs.opm.gov/ei61.asp>

Join EPA, Region 9 in protecting human health and the environment and enjoy many work life quality options including flexible work schedules, telecommuting, fitness center, career and personal development, leave accrual, retirement programs, health benefits, group life insurance and long term care insurance programs, biweekly pay schedule, and transit subsidy. Some of the programs are identified below, but you may obtain additional benefits information by visiting the following EPA website:

<http://www.epa.gov/epahrist/careers/benefits.html#s>

Childcare Tuition Assistance Program. EPA has a Childcare Tuition Assistance Pilot Program. The program targets employees whose annual family income is \$69,000 or lower and is available to all eligible employees on a first-come, first-served basis through an application process.

Eldercare. Eldercare is a relatively new program that provides an alternative if you are responsible for the care of a dependent senior. EPA provides referral assistance for identifying a caregiver to assist dependent seniors while employees are at work.

Employee Assistance Program. This program provides a helping hand for dealing with personal problems and stresses. It also provides confidential assistance with problems and concerns related to

substance abuse.

Flexible Workplace Program. The Flexible Workplace Program (Flexiplace) provides employees the opportunity to work at a place other than the regularly assigned work site such as satellite locations or their residences. Flexiplace is a work arrangement that is discretionary on the part of management, and voluntary on the part of the employee. Participation in Flexiplace requires 1 year tenure in EPA.

Leave Sharing (Transfer)/Leave Bank. EPA employees may join and contribute to a voluntary leave bank. Members of the leave bank may receive annual leave if he/she experiences a personal or family emergency and has exhausted all of his/her paid leave. It also allows you to donate your leave to fellow employees with catastrophic leave demands.

Learning and Development. Employee learning and development are both encouraged and available in different forms within the Agency, whether in a classroom setting, mentoring, coaching, or attending conferences, as well as the most valuable ongoing development, the job itself. As you learn more about your work, you are increasing your knowledge, skills, and abilities and adding greater value to the overall goals of the Agency.

Tuition Assistance. With management approval, you can get tuition assistance for courses, seminars and conferences that directly relate to your job or to the Agency's mission overall.

Additional Information:

PROMOTION POTENTIAL:

The highest grade (full performance level) of this position is GS-12. The position may be filled at either the GS-11 or GS-12 grade level. The primary difference between grade levels is the degree of supervision, the level of training and guidance provided and the complexity of assignment. A person selected at the GS-11 grade level may be promoted progressively to the full performance level of GS-12 without further competition.

RELOCATION EXPENSES:

Travel, transportation, and relocation expenses will not be paid by the Agency. Any travel, transportation, and relocation expenses associated with reporting for duty in this position will be the responsibility of the selected candidate.

NOTICE: Federal law requires all employers to verify the identity and employment eligibility of all persons hired to work in the United States.

This employer will provide the Social Security Administration (SSA) and, if necessary, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), with information from each new employee's Form I-9 to confirm work authorization.

IMPORTANT: If the Government cannot confirm that you are authorized to work, this employer is required to provide you written instructions and an opportunity to contact SSA and/or DHS before taking adverse action against you, including terminating your employment.

Employers may not use E-Verify to pre-screen job applicants or to re-verify current employees and may not limit or influence the choice of documents presented for use on the Form I-9.

In order to determine whether Form I-9 documentation is valid, this employer uses E-Verify's photo screening tool to match the photograph appearing on some permanent resident and employment authorization cards with the official U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services' (USCIS) photograph.

If you believe that your employer has violated its responsibilities under this program or has discriminated against you during the verification process based upon your national origin or citizenship status, please call the Office of Special Counsel at 1-800-255-7688 (TDD: 1-800-237-2515).

Important! All the information you provide may be verified by a review of the work experience and/or education as shown on your application forms, by checking references and through other means, such as the interview process.

Announcement Number: Reg 9-DE-2008-0035

Any exaggeration of your experience, false statements, or attempts to conceal information may be grounds for not hiring you, or for firing you after you begin work.

Please make sure that you have attached your resume. You will be disqualified from consideration if your resume has not been submitted before this vacancy closes.

Please remember to send all supporting documentation to the HR office for proper consideration.

Thank you for your interest in working for Environmental Protection Agency

Applicant's Signature

Date Application Completed

Applicant's Name Printed