

# Fire Protection Engineer

Smithsonian Institution

## Summary

The Smithsonian Institution is the world's largest museum, education, and research complex, with 21 museums and the National Zoo. The responsibility of the Fire Protection Division (FPD), Office of Safety, Health, and Environmental Management (OSHEM) is to develop and coordinate a comprehensive Smithsonian (SI) Fire Protection Program, which includes fire safety and fire prevention.

## Overview

Accepting applications

### Open & closing dates

🕒 04/16/2024 to 05/07/2024

### Salary

\$99,200 - \$153,354 per year

### Pay scale & grade

GS 12 - 13

### Location

📍 Washington, DC

### Remote job

No

### Telework eligible

Yes—as determined by the agency policy.

### Travel Required

Occasional travel - Some travel may be required.

### Relocation expenses reimbursed

No

### Appointment type

Permanent - Federal

### Work schedule

Full-time - Full-Time, Permanent

**Service**

Competitive

**Promotion potential**

13

**Job family (Series)**

[0804 Fire Protection Engineering](#)

**Supervisory status**

No

**Security clearance**

[Other](#)

**Drug test**

No

**Position sensitivity and risk**

[Non-sensitive \(NS\)/Low Risk](#)

**Trust determination process**

[Credentialing](#)

[Suitability/Fitness](#)

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**Announcement number**

24R-MP-310671-DEU-OSHEM

**Control number**

786829900

# This job is open to



**The public**

U.S. Citizens, Nationals or those who owe allegiance to the U.S.

**Clarification from the agency**

This position is open to all U.S. Citizens or U.S. Nationals. Note: Federal employees with permanent status or individuals eligible for special appointing authorities may also apply to Job Announcement #24R-MP-310671-MPA-OSHEM. More than one selection may be made from this announcement.

# Duties

The Fire Protection Engineer will operate and maintain all buildings and spaces to protect Smithsonian employees, property, and mission from losses that may be incurred in the event of a fire.

In this position you will:

**GS-12:**

- Review design and construction project drawings and specifications to evaluate adequacy of fire protection and life safety for the organization.
- Develop fire protection and life safety policies and programs based on established standards tailored to the needs of SI.
- Provide fire protection and life safety training and presentations to various diverse groups.
- Prepare technical reports at the conclusion of inspections of SI facilities.

**GS-13:**

- Review design and construction project drawings and specifications to evaluate adequacy of fire protection and life safety for the organization.
- Develop prescriptive and performance-based approaches to solving various fire protection and life safety issues.
- Participate in numerous meetings, with clients and the design team to discuss, resolve, and/or impart requirements regarding fire/life safety.
- Prepare technical reports at the conclusion of inspections of SI facilities.

## Requirements

### Conditions of Employment

- Pass Pre-employment Background Investigation
- May need to complete a Probationary Period
- Maintain a Bank Account for Direct Deposit/Electronic Transfer
- Males born after 12/31/59 must be registered with Selective Service.

**Conditions of Employment****COVID-19 VACCINATION REQUIREMENTS:**

For the latest information on the COVID-19 vaccination requirements and its impact on your application, click on Smithsonian Institution's [Frequently Asked Questions](#)

Qualification requirements must be met within 30 days of the job announcement closing date.

For information on qualification requirements, see *Qualification Standards Handbook for General Schedule Positions* on [OPM website](#)

## Qualifications

**Basic Qualifications: Education**

Degree: Engineering. To be acceptable, the program must: (1) lead to a bachelor's degree in a school of engineering with at least one program accredited by ABET; 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); (c) 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.

To view the educational requirements, go to the link listed below for the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) website: [Fire Protection Engineering Series 0804 \(opm.gov\)](#).

**In addition to meeting the basic requirement above, to qualify for this position you must also meet the qualification requirements listed below:**

**Experience:** You qualify for this position if you have one year of specialized experience equivalent to at least the next lowest grade level as defined below, in the Federal Service or comparable pay band system.

**GS-12:**

You qualify for this position if you have one year of specialized experience equivalent to at least the **GS-11** level in the Federal Service or comparable pay band system.

**For this position specialized experience is defined as** conducting fire safety surveys of a variety of buildings; developing risk assessments; applying fire protection principles and techniques, including the use of performance-based engineering analysis to solve complex fire protection issues; reviewing drawings and specifications for building construction and renovation to ensure compliance with current standards for fire protection and life safety.

**GS-13:**

You qualify for this position if you have one year of specialized experience equivalent to at least the **GS-12** level in the Federal Service or comparable pay band system.

**For this position, specialized experience is defined as** conducting fire safety surveys of a variety of buildings; developing risk assessments; applying fire protection principles and techniques, including the use of performance-based engineering analysis to independently solve complex fire protection issues; reviewing drawings and specifications for building construction and renovation to ensure compliance with current standards for fire protection and life safety; and serving as a consultant on fire protection and prevention to upper levels of management, engineers, and other personnel.

Experience refers to paid and unpaid experience, including volunteer work done through National Service programs (e.g., Peace Corps, AmeriCorps) and other organizations (e.g., professional; philanthropic; religious; spiritual; community, student, social). Volunteer work helps build critical competencies, knowledge, and skills and can provide valuable training and experience that translates directly to paid employment. You will receive credit for all qualifying experience, including volunteer experience.

Part-time and/or unpaid experience related to this position will be considered to determine the total number of years and months of experience. Be sure to note the number of paid or unpaid hours worked each week.

## Education

This position has a Positive Education Requirement.

## Additional information

This position is included in the bargaining unit.

**Current or Former Political Appointees:** Beginning January 1, 2010, agencies must seek prior approval from OPM before they can appoint a current or recent political appointee to a competitive or non-political excepted service position at any level under the provisions of title 5, United States Code. If you are currently or have been within the last 5 years, a political Schedule A, Schedule C, or Non-career SES employee in the executive branch, you **MUST** disclose that to the Office of Human Resources. Submit a copy of your applicable SF-50, along with a statement that provides the following information regarding your most recent political appointment:

- Position title;
- Type of appointment (Schedule A, Schedule C, Non-career SES, or Presidential Appointee);
- Agency; and,
- Beginning and ending dates of appointment.

**Recruitment Incentive:** Recruitment incentive(s) may be authorized for this position. However, approval for incentives are contingent upon various availability. If authorized, certain incentives will require the incumbent to sign a service agreement to remain in the Federal government for a certain time period.

**Note:** This statement does not imply nor guarantee an incentive will be offered and paid.

## Benefits

The Smithsonian offers a comprehensive benefits package that includes, in part, vacation and sick leave, holidays, health/life insurance, accident insurance, and excellent retirement program options.

Please see Benefits at <https://www.si.edu/OHR/benefits> for a complete description.

Flexible Spending Accounts - <https://www.fsafeds.com/>

Health Insurance - <http://www.opm.gov/insure/health/index.asp>

Leave - <http://www.opm.gov/oca/leave/index.asp>

Life Insurance - <http://www.opm.gov/insure/life/index.asp>

Long Term Care Insurance - <http://www.ltcfeds.com>

Retirement Program - <https://www.opm.gov/retirement-services/>

## How You Will Be Evaluated

You will be evaluated for this job based on how well you meet the qualifications above.

Applicants for this position may be evaluated in multiple stages. The first stage is an evaluation of your responses to the online multiple-choice questions that assess your experience, education, and/or training for the job-related competencies below:

### GS-12/13:

- **Skills and experience in the application of fire protection engineering principles, practices and techniques to solve complex fire protection problems.**
- **Skills and experience interpreting and applying building and fire codes, as well as utilizing a performance-based approach in a wide variety of situations.**
- **Skills and experience verbally articulating complex engineering ideas and negotiating issues with diverse groups, including management, museum staff, as well as other design professionals, such as architects, engineers, and construction staff.**
- **Skills and experience in technical writing to produce investigative reports, analyses and recommendations tailored for the intended audience (e.g., upper management, professional staff, outside agency officials).**

Applicants who meet or exceed minimum qualifications will be assigned to one of three category groups based on job-related criteria:

- Best Category - Meets the minimum qualification requirements and excels in most of the job-related competencies above.
- Better Category - Meets the minimum qualification requirements and satisfies most of the job-related competencies above.
- Good Category - Meets the minimum qualification requirements but does not satisfy most of the job-related competencies above to a substantive degree.

This category rating process does not add veterans' preference points or apply the "rule of three" but protects the rights of veterans by placing them ahead of non-preference eligibles within each category. A selecting official may make selections from the highest quality category (Best Category) provided no preference eligible in that category is passed over to select a non-preference eligible in that category unless the requirements of 5 U.S.C. 3317(b) or 3318(b) are satisfied. Preference eligibles who meet minimum qualification requirements and who have a compensable service-connected disability of at least 10 percent must be listed in the highest quality category, except when the position being filled is scientific or professional at the GS-9 grade level or higher. Applicants who have not submitted a resume in the USAjobs system and/or have not answered all of the vacancy questions will not be considered for this position.

**Important Note:**

Your resume and supporting documentation will be compared to your responses to the occupational questionnaire or other assessment tool for consistency. If a determination is made that you have rated yourself higher than is supported by your resume, you will be assigned a rating commensurate to your described experience. Your resume should provide sufficient information regarding how your education and experience relate to this position, including the major duties and qualifications criteria listed.

You may [preview questions](#) for this vacancy.

## Required Documents

**Your application package should include the following documents:**

- Resume - Your resume can be uploaded and attached to your application or created using the USA Jobs on-line resume builder. Ensure your resume contains the job title (including the occupational series and grade if it is Federal), job-related qualifications, starting and ending dates (month and year), hours worked per week, and salary for each employment period. It is your responsibility to ensure all information is submitted. Failure to include this information may result in disqualification for the position.

For assistance with creating a resume, please click [here](#).

- Proof of Veteran's Preference - DD214 (Member 4 Copy), if you are a veteran. Additionally, applicants claiming 10-point preference must complete Standard Form (SF) 15, Application for 10-Point Veteran Preference, as well as additional documentation required by the SF-15, such as a VA letter.
- **Unofficial school transcripts, if the position has an education requirement or if you are using education to qualify. If selected for the position, you must provide an official transcript before appointment.**
- Proof of U.S. accreditation for foreign study, if applicable.

**If you are relying on your education to meet qualification requirements:**

Education must be accredited by an accrediting institution recognized by the U.S. Department of Education in order for it to be credited towards qualifications. Therefore, provide only the attendance and/or degrees from schools accredited by accrediting institutions recognized by the U.S. Department of Education.

Failure to provide all of the required information as stated in this vacancy announcement may result in an ineligible rating or may affect the overall rating.

## How to Apply

**Click on the "Apply Online" button on the upper right side of the page.** Please Note:

- You must apply for this position online through the 'Apply Online' button and submit required supplemental documents (if they are relevant to you).
- You may submit required documents by uploading them online during the application process; **OR** You may manually fax required documents. Faxes are received by an automated system, not a physical fax machine. Documents that are faxed as part of the application process must be sent with the system generated cover sheet by the closing date. Documents faxed without the system generated coversheet are not retrievable and cannot be considered as part of the application package.
- The complete application package, including any required documents, is due in the Smithsonian Office of Human Resources on the closing date of the announcement by 11:59 PM Eastern Time.
- If you are unable to apply online, paper applications may be accepted with prior approval of the Contact Person listed below.

## Agency contact information

 Marie Parks

### Phone

[202-633-6332](tel:202-633-6332)

### TDD

202-633-6409

### Fax

000-000-0000

### Email

[Parksma@si.edu](mailto:Parksma@si.edu)

[Learn more about this agency](#)

### Address

SMITHSONIAN  
Office of Human Resources  
POB 37012, 600 Maryland Avenue, MRC 517  
Suite 5060  
Washington, District of Columbia 20013-7012  
United States

## Next steps

At the end of the application process you will be able to create and save a PDF file that contains your responses to the assessment questions. You may save this file as initial receipt of your application. After the job announcement closes, you will receive an email from the Smithsonian with confirmation of receipt. The Smithsonian receives many applications for each job. Each application is reviewed carefully which may take a few weeks. We will send you an e-mail to update you as we go through phases of the application review process. You may also check your application status by logging into [www.usajobs.gov](http://www.usajobs.gov) and selecting the tab "My USAJOBS;" e-mailing [vacancy.info@si.edu](mailto:vacancy.info@si.edu); or by contacting the Office of Human Resources Representative listed. **Additional Information:**

- Tips on applying for Smithsonian jobs are available at <https://www.si.edu/OHR/howtoapply>.
- The Smithsonian does not pay relocation expenses but recruitment incentives may be authorized.
- The Smithsonian embraces diversity and equal employment opportunity ([www.si.edu/oeema](http://www.si.edu/oeema)).

## Fair & Transparent

The Federal hiring process is set up to be fair and transparent. Please read the following guidance.

[Equal Employment Opportunity \(EEO\) Policy](#)

[Financial suitability](#)

[New employee probationary period](#)

[Privacy Act](#)

[Reasonable accommodation policy](#)

[Selective Service](#)

[Signature and false statements](#)

[Social security number request](#)