



Delegated Authority Having Jurisdiction - Code Compliance

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Institute of Standards and Technology

Office of Safety, Health, and Environment

Summary

NIST is seeking a Fire Protection Engineer to support NIST in the evaluation, inspection, and testing of fire protection and life safety systems and sub-systems. Responsibilities include ensuring NIST complies with industry standards and code requirements.

[Learn more about this agency](#)

Overview

Accepting applications

🕒 Open 09/04/2026 to 09/25/2026

Location

1 vacancy in the following location:

📍 **Gaithersburg, MD**

Work site options

Telework eligible

Yes — as determined by the agency policy.

Remote job

No

Relocation expenses reimbursed

No

Salary

\$85,447 - \$187,093 per year

Pay scale & grade

ZP 3-4

Promotion potential

4

? [Learn more about pay scale and grade](#)

Pay scale and grade determines the salary of the job.

Work schedule

Full-time

Travel Required

Occasional travel - Occasional travel to attend training, meetings, and conferences.

Appointment type

Permanent

Occupations and job series

- [0804 Fire Protection Engineering](#)

Supervisory status

No

Federal service type

This job is in the Competitive Service

Represented by a union

No

Drug test

No

Security clearance

Not Required

Position sensitivity and risk

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

? Jobs require a [background check](#) and some require a [security clearance](#). The type depends on the job.

Background check type

- [Suitability/Fitness](#)

Financial disclosure required

Yes

 Some jobs require [financial disclosure](#) to identify conflicts of interests.

Announcement number

OSHE-154-26-13050780-DH

Control number

883369600

This job is open to



[The public](#)

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



[Career transition \(CTAP, ICTAP, RPL\)](#)

Federal employees whose job, agency or department was eliminated and are eligible for priority over other applicants.

Clarification from the agency

U.S. Citizens

Videos

Build Your Future with a Career at NIST!

National Institute of Standards and Technology



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Duties

The mission of the Office of Safety, Health, and Environment (OSHE) is to lead and support NIST in ensuring safe work is conducted in safe workspaces. In partnership with management and staff, OSHE leads the development, supports implementation, and ensures continuous improvement of the management systems used to reduce risk across occupational health and safety, radiation safety, fire and life safety, and environmental stewardship. This approach enables NIST to advance its scientific mission safely and efficiently, while protecting the worker, the public, and the environment and complying with applicable laws and regulations.

If hired for this position, you will:

- Evaluate, inspect, and test fire protection and life safety systems and sub-systems (fire suppression, fire alarm, mass notification, special hazard, egress, etc.) related to research activities and building construction/renovation activities.
- Ensure NIST complies with industry standards and code requirements set forth in OSHA regulations, applicable National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standards, the International Code Council Building Codes, and any NIST adopted codes and/or standards.

Requirements

Conditions of employment

- U.S. citizenship
- Males born after 12-31-59 must be registered for Selective Service
- Suitable for Federal employment
- Bargaining Unit Position: No
- Must possess a valid Professional Engineering (PE) License in Fire Protection
- Completion of Confidential Financial Disclosure, Form OGE-450
- Satisfactory completion of a pre-employment medical examination

Qualifications

Individual Occupational Requirements

Basic Requirements:

A. 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.

OR

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

1. Professional registration or licensure--Current registration as an Engineer Intern (EI), Engineer in Training (EIT)¹, or licensure as a Professional Engineer (PE) by any State, the District of Columbia, Guam, or Puerto Rico. Absent other means of qualifying under this standard, those applicants 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 Fundamentals of Engineering (FE)² examination or any other written test required for professional registration by an engineering licensure board in the various States, the District of Columbia, Guam, and Puerto Rico.

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

4. Related curriculum -- Successful completion of a curriculum leading to a bachelor's degree in an appropriate scientific field, e.g., engineering technology, physics, chemistry, architecture, computer science, mathematics, hydrology, or geology, may be accepted in lieu of a bachelor's degree in engineering, provided the applicant has had at 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. (The above examples of related curricula are not all inclusive.)

In addition to the basic requirements, to qualify for the ZP-III position, applicants must have one year (52 Weeks) of specialized experience equivalent to a GS-09 grade level (ZP-II at NIST employees) in the Federal service. Specialized experience is defined as:

- Experience designing or reviewing fire protection and life safety systems across various occupancies (business, laboratory, education, and industrial) **AND**
- Experience using the ICC suite of codes and NFPA codes and standards

OR

3 years of progressively higher-level graduate education leading to a Ph.D. degree or Ph.D. or equivalent doctoral degree

In addition to the basic requirements, to qualify for the ZP-IV position, applicants must have one year (52 Weeks) of specialized experience equivalent to a GS-12 grade level (ZP-III at NIST employees) in the Federal service. Specialized experience is defined as:

- Experience independently leading complex design, peer review, commissioning or final approval of fire protection and life safety systems across multi-hazard, high-complexity, or high-occupancy environments. **AND**
- Experience interpreting the ICC suite of codes and NFPA codes and standards to evaluate non-standard designs, variance requests or code equivalencies.

*****Selective Placement Factor for the ZP-IV position: Must possess a valid Professional Engineering (PE) license in Fire Protection. Please provide a copy of your license with your application.*****

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.

The qualification requirements in this vacancy announcement are based on the U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM) Qualification Standards [Handbook](#).

If requesting reconsideration of your qualification determination, please refer to the following site: [Applicant Reconsideration](#)

Education

This position has an education requirement. Transcripts must be submitted to validate that the education requirement has been met. Unofficial transcripts will be accepted in the application package. However, an official copy will be required before a final offer of employment.

Use of foreign education for qualifications. An accredited organization must evaluate education completed outside of the U.S. to ensure that it is comparable to education received in accredited institutions in the U.S. Click [here](#) to view a listing of accredited organizations from the Department of Education's website. A copy of the foreign education evaluation (containing the results with course-by-course listing) is required with your application.

Additional information

This position is covered under NIST's Alternative Personnel Management System (APMS), a pay-for-performance system with excellent HR flexibilities to help NIST recruit and retain top talent. Learn more about the APMS [here](#)!

- We may share your application package with other selecting officials. Additional selections may be made through this vacancy.
- Click all links in this vacancy announcement to view additional information or instructions.
- You **MUST** select at least ONE ELIGIBILITY to be considered for this position.
- All documents submitted for this announcement must be legible to make qualification or eligibility determinations.
- A probationary period may be required.
- This position has physical requirements which include but may not be limited to:
- **Functional Requirements**
 - Moderate lifting, 15-44 pounds
 - Moderate carrying, 15-44 pounds
 - Reaching above the shoulder
 - Walking 3 hours
 - Standing 3 hours
 - Operation of crane, truck, tractor, or motor vehicle
 - Hearing (aid may be permitted)
- **Environmental Factors**
 - Outside and inside
 - Excessive noise, intermittent
 - Slippery or uneven walking surfaces
 - Working around machinery with moving parts
 - Working on ladders or scaffolding
 - Working below ground

This position requires filing of an OGE-450 Confidential Financial Disclosure Report within 30 days of onboarding and annually thereafter.

NIST strives to build a flexible and encouraging work environment to bring out the best in our employees. To help our employees balance responsibilities at home and at work, NIST offers a variety of work-life flexibilities. For more information, please visit our Careers [website](#).

Candidates should be committed to improving the efficiency of the Federal government, passionate about the ideals of our American republic, and committed to upholding the rule of law and the United States Constitution.

Benefits

A career with the U.S. government provides employees with a comprehensive benefits package. As a federal employee, you and your family will have access to a range of benefits that are designed to make your federal career very rewarding. [Learn more about federal benefits](#).

[Review our benefits](#)

Eligibility for benefits depends on the type of position you hold and whether your position is full-time, part-time or intermittent. Contact the hiring agency for more information on the specific benefits offered.

How you will be evaluated

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

Please prepare a resume that is **no longer than two pages**; only the first two pages will be considered during the review process. Ensure your font is **11 points or larger** and upload your resume as a **.pdf document**. This helps ensure your formatting looks exactly the way you intended.

How you will be evaluated: You will be evaluated for this job based on how well you meet the qualifications above. Once the announcement has closed, a review of your resume and supporting documentation will be used to determine whether you meet the qualification requirements listed in this announcement. Overstating your qualifications and/or experience in your application materials or application questionnaire may result in your removal from consideration.

Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) may be used to review your resume to determine your technical qualifications for this position based on the required specialized experience. SMEs will review **ONLY** two (2) pages of your resume. SMEs will not review additional information beyond your resume.

Applications will be assessed on the following competencies:

- Facilities
- Fire Management

- General Engineering
- Safety Engineering

Referral: All applicants may be referred to the selecting official for consideration. Under Direct Hire Authority, applicants are not rated and ranked, and veteran preference does not apply.

CTAP or ICTAP eligibility: If you are a displaced or surplus Federal employee eligible for the Career Transition Assistance Plan (CTAP) or Interagency Career Transition Assistance Plan (ICTAP), you must be determined eligible and rated as well-qualified to receive special selection priority. "Well Qualified" means that in addition to meeting the minimum qualification requirements and selective placement factor(s), if applicable, you must receive a score of 85 or higher. Please review the following site regarding required documents to support CTAP or ICTAP eligibility and additional information regarding this authority - [CTAP/ICTAP Eligibility](#).

Required Documents

The documents required may vary based on how you're applying (i.e., as a veteran or disabled veteran, current or former Federal employee, etc.). [Please review the Required Documents for this position to find out if there are any documents required with your application.](#) Failure to submit required documents, based upon how you apply, may result in loss of consideration due to an incomplete application package.

A complete application includes: 1) A resume (not to exceed two pages), 2) vacancy question responses regarding technical qualifications, and 3) submission of any required documents. Please note that **if you do not provide all required information, as specified in this announcement, or if the documents submitted are illegible you may not be considered for this position** (or may not receive the special consideration for which you may be eligible).

Resume: All applicants must submit a resume by creating one in USAJOBS or uploading one of their choosing. **Please prepare a resume no longer than 2 pages; only the first 2 pages will be considered during the review process. Ensure your font is 11 points or larger and upload your resume as a .pdf document. This helps ensure your formatting looks exactly the way you intended.** Cover letters are optional. To receive any credit for relevant experience, please list the month/year and the number of hours worked for experience listed on your resume. We suggest you review the qualification requirements for this position as you may need to customize your resume to ensure that it supports the position qualifications. Please refer to the [Resume Guidance](#) on how to build an effective resume.

How to Apply

Please read the entire announcement and all the instructions before you begin an application. To apply and be considered for this position, you must complete all required questionnaires, assessments, and required documentation as specified in the How to Apply and Required Documents section. The

complete application package must be submitted by 11:59 PM (ET) on the closing date of the announcement to receive consideration. The application process is as follows:

1. Click the **Apply Online** button.
2. Answer the questions presented in the application and attach all necessary supporting documentation.
3. Click the **Submit Application** button prior to 11:59 PM (ET) on the announcement closing date.

As part of the application process, you will be asked to respond to four narrative questions. While your responses to these questions is not required and will not be scored, we encourage you to thoughtfully address each question. You will be asked to certify that you are using your own words and did not use a consultant or artificial intelligence (AI) such as a large language model (LLM) like ChatGPT or Copilot.

Once your application has been submitted, you will receive a confirmation notification by email. The Human Resources Office will evaluate your application to determine your eligibility for the position. After the evaluation is complete, you will receive another notification regarding the status of your application.

To update your application, including supporting documentation: During the announcement open period, return to your USAJOBS account, find your application record, and click **Edit my application**. This option will no longer be available once the announcement has closed.

To view the announcement status or your application status: Click on this: [USAJOBS Help Center - How to see your application and job status](#) Your application status page is where you can view your application status, USA Hire assessment completion status, and review your notifications sent by the hiring agency regarding your application.

Need help applying?

- If you are experiencing any difficulties with the online application process (anything after you have clicked the 'Apply Online' button), please contact the Agency Contact listed on this announcement between regular business hours (8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. ET). If you receive any kind of error message, please be ready to provide a screenshot or, at a minimum, the error message text and number. We will provide you with a technical support number for further assistance if necessary.
- If you are having trouble with USAJOBS (searching for jobs, account password/profile issues, or Resume Builder), please visit the USAJOBS [USAJOBS Help Center - How to...](#) We regret that we are unable to support any issues with USAJOBS, as this service is not maintained by the NIST.
- If you are experiencing a significant hardship that hinders your ability to apply online, please contact the Agency Contact listed on this announcement prior to the vacancy closing date and during regular business hours to discuss your situation.

Agency contact information

 **Daniel Matamoros**

Email

daniel.matamoros@nist.gov

Address

Fire Protection Authority Division
100 Bureau Drive
Gaithersburg, MD 20899
US

Next steps

We will update applicant statuses when:

- A qualification determination is made. If found not qualified/eligible, no additional updates will be provided.
- Applications are referred to the selecting official.
- A selection decision has been made.

Please notify us if your contact information changes after announcement's closing date. Also, note that if you provide an inaccurate email address or if your mailbox is full or blocked (e.g., spam-blocker), you may not receive important communication, which could affect your consideration for this position.

Fair and transparent

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

[Criminal history inquiries](#)

[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](#)

[< Previous result](#)

[Next result >](#)



USAJOBS is a [United States Office of Personnel Management](#) website.