



Department: **Department Of Health And Human Services**

Agency: **Indian Health Service**

Sub Agency: **Department of Health and Human Services - IHS**

Job Announcement Number:

**HHS-IHS-WR-2009-0111**

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Overview

## ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER - DE

**Salary Range:** 53,234.00 - 73,329.00 USD per year

**Series & Grade:** GS-0819-09/11

**Promotion Potential:** 11

### Who May Be Considered:

Any U.S. Citizen

This position is also being announced under HHS-IHS-WR-2009-0107 for those who want to be considered under Merit Promotion Plan/Excepted Service Examining Plan. If you wish to be considered under all hiring plans you must submit an application to both vacancy announcements.

[Which hiring plan should I select?](#)

### Job Summary:

**Open Period:** Wednesday, February 18, 2009 to Thursday, December 31, 2009

**Position Information:** Full-Time Permanent or 2 Year Term Appointment maybe extended additional 2 years

**Duty Locations:** few vacancies - Spokane, WA few vacancies - Bremerton, WA few vacancies - Portland, OR few vacancies - Seattle, WA

The Indian Health Service (IHS), an agency within the Department of Health and Human Services, is responsible for providing federal health services to American Indians and Alaska Natives. The IHS provides a comprehensive health services delivery system for American Indians and Alaska Natives with opportunity for maximum tribal involvement in developing and managing programs to meet their health needs.

#### **NUMBER OF VACANCIES AND APPOINTMENT TYPES VARIES:**

The Western Region Human Resources Office fills vacant positions for the Portland Area Indian Health Service, an entity within the Department of Health & Human Services and the Western Region Human Resources Office is accepting applications at the multiple grade levels and multiple locations for recruitment of the greatest number of candidates who will be considered for all vacancies for a 6-month period.

Applicants should specify the lowest grade (GS-level) that they will accept. Applicants should specify specific location(s) they are interested in; otherwise, consideration will be for ALL location(s).

#### **POSITION DETAILS:**

*Travel Required:*Yes for some positions

*Supervisory/Managerial Position:*No

*Relocation Expenses Paid:*No.

Travel, transportation, and relocation expenses associated with reporting for duty in this position will be the responsibility of the employee.

*Is position covered by PL 101-630?*Yes

*Is drug testing required?*No

*Is government housing available?*No

*The Indian Health Service is required by law to give absolute preference to qualified Indian applicants and employees who are qualified and suitable for Federal employment. The Indian Health Service (IHS) by law is committed to affording employment preference to American Indian and Alaska Native candidates who meet the Secretary of the Interior's definition of Indian for appointment to vacancies within the IHS in accordance with established IHS policy as outlined in the Indian Health Manual Part 7, Chapter 3. In other than the above, the Indian Health Service is an Equal Opportunity Employer.*

#### **Key Requirements:**

- Position subject to background investigation & compliance with PL-101-630.

## Duties

### Major Duties:

#### What Are The Major Duties of the Job?

This position is located within the Portland Area Indian Health Service Office of Environmental Health and Engineering (OEH&E) program. Works on all phases of projects pertaining to improving the environmental conditions under which American Indians live. Projects include the provision of water supply, wastewater, and solid waste facilities for individual homes and communities. Plans, designs and provides construction management associated with the provision of community and individual water supplies, waste water and solid waste facilities. Determines system requirements and capacity, reviews literature and suggests design alternatives. Prepares cost estimates at the planning and design stage to develop project budgets and cost controls. Has frequent contact with a wide range of governmental agencies, individuals, contractors and Tribal groups. Performs land surveys for rights-of-way and easements and construction surveys to establish line and grade for various sanitary facilities. Oversees the construction inspection of sanitation facilities projects including quality control and measurement of quantities installed. Maintains the necessary records of observations for the permanent contract files. Acts as the Contracting Officers Representatives. Oversees up to two technicians or inspector in the conduct of the programs. Investigates, conducts and writes technical reports for the Tribes regarding associated environmental engineering activities.

## Qualifications and Evaluation

### Qualifications:

#### How Do I Qualify for the Job?

In addition to the BASIC REQUIREMENT, you must possess one year of full-time specialized experience or meet the substitution of education for experience criteria.

**SPECIALIZED EXPERIENCE DEFINED:** The professional engineering experience required for grades GS-9 or GS-11 is defined as non-routine engineering work that required and was characterized by (1) professional knowledge of engineering; (2) professional ability to apply such knowledge to engineering problems; and (3) positive and continuing development of professional knowledge and ability.

Professional knowledge of engineering is defined as the comprehensive, in-depth knowledge of mathematical, physical, and engineering sciences applicable to a specialty field of engineering that characterizes a full 4-year professional engineering curriculum leading to a bachelor's degree, or the equivalent.

Professional ability to apply engineering knowledge is defined as the ability to (a) apply fundamental and diversified professional

engineering concepts, theories, and practices to achieve engineering objectives with versatility, judgment, and perception; (b) adapt and apply methods and techniques of related scientific disciplines; and (c) organize, analyze, interpret, and evaluate scientific data in the solution of engineering problems.

Professional work in engineering, like that in other professions, is marked by continuing personal effort to keep abreast of the advancing and changing discipline. Continuing education in engineering and related fields is an important element of full professional competence as an engineer that should be considered in evaluating the qualifications of applicants for professional engineering positions.

Specialized experience for this position is professional engineering experience in work that demonstrates knowledge of engineering concepts, principles and practices applicable to the design and construction of sanitation facilities to plan, design and provide construction management associated with the provision of community and individual water supplies, wastewater and solid waste facilities. The work of the position involves the Sanitation Facilities Construction (SFC) Program on an Area or District basis. The SFC program is an environmental/civil engineering component within Indian Health Service a health care delivery system.

GS-09: one year of specialized experience at the GS-07 grade equivalent

GS-11: one year of specialized experience at the GS-09 grade equivalent

## BASIC REQUIREMENT

A. Education: Professional engineering degree. 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); (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 professional 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.

## SUBSTITUTION OF EDUCATION FOR EXPERIENCE

GS-9: 2 full years of progressively higher level graduate education or master's or equivalent graduate degree

GS-11: Completion of all requirements for a doctoral degree (Ph.D., M.D., or equivalent) or 3 full academic years of progressively higher level graduate education.

Graduate Education: Completion of graduate level education in the amounts shown above, in addition to meeting the basic requirements, is qualifying for positions if it provided the knowledge, skills, and abilities necessary to do the work.

**Positive Education Requirements:** This position has specific educational requirements. To qualify for this position, you must possess the required education as noted under *Qualifications*.

Equivalent combinations of education and experience are qualifying for all grade levels and positions for which both education and experience are acceptable.

You must submit a copy of your transcripts with your application if you are requesting IHS to consider your education in determining your qualifications for this position. If selected, official transcripts are required.

You must meet the requirements of the position and provide the required (supporting) documents to be considered for this position. Supporting documents are to be submitted by fax-imaging using cover sheets via on-line process.

### **How You Will Be Evaluated:**

*The HHS Careers system simplifies the Federal application process by replacing the former KSA job-element statements with on-line self-assessment questions.* Your resume and responses to the self-assessment questions are an integral part of the process for determining your basic and specialized qualifications for the position.

If found qualified, your score will range from 70-100 points (not including points that may be assigned for Veterans' Preference, if applicable) and will be based on your responses to the questions and information stated in your application.

CTAP and ICTAP eligible employees who meet all education and experience requirements, must meet the well-qualified criteria which is to receive a rating of 85 out of a possible 100.

Please follow all instructions carefully as errors and omissions may affect your score. Your score is critical for you being referred for the job. You will be deemed well qualified if you score 85 and

above.

Therefore, it is important to support your responses to the vacancy questions by providing examples of past and present experience.

Additional details on the application process can be found under the How to Apply tab.

To preview questions please [click here](#).

## Benefits and Other Information

### **Benefits:**

[The federal government offers a number of exceptional benefits.](#)

### **Other Information:**

[Veterans Information](#)

[Displaced Federal employees ICTAP criteria.](#)

[CTAP Information](#)

### **[Information for Temporary and Term Employees](#)**

Promotion Potential: This position has promotion potential to the GS-11 grade level. Promotion to the next grade level is at management's discretion and is based on your demonstrated ability to perform the higher level duties, the continuing need for the higher level duties, and administrative approval. Promotion to the next grade level is not guaranteed and no promise of promotion is implied.

Male applicants born after December 31, 1959 must be registered with the Selective Service.

IHS-OPERATED PROPERTIES ARE "TOBACCO FREE"

## How to Apply

## How To Apply:

You must begin the application process online at USAJOBS. Submitting your USAJOBS resume and responses to the vacancy questions online is mandatory to be considered for this vacancy announcement.

First, read this entire vacancy announcement. While reading the announcement carefully, take note of any qualifications, rating factors, job-related questions or specific duties that are listed.

Next, login to [MYUSAJOBS](#) and edit your existing resume or create a new resume to highlight the skills and experiences you have that relate to THIS SPECIFIC VACANCY.

Once you've crafted a vacancy-specific resume, return to the announcement and select "Apply Online." Select your vacancy-specific resume and submit it for consideration by clicking "Apply to this position now!" This will then take you to the IHS HHS Careers system to answer the core questions and job specific questions.

Once you have completed the online questionnaire, you may return to USAJOBS. However, your application may not be complete. Make sure you submit any supporting documentation after you have completed the on-line application process.

**REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION:** This agency provides reasonable accommodation to applicants with disabilities. If you need a reasonable accommodation for any part of the application and hiring process, please contact Jeanne Taylor, (916) 930-3981 X3355. The decision on granting reasonable accommodation will be made on a case-by-case basis.

## Required Documents:

You must provide the required information during the on-line application process and fax all supporting documents to the fax number listed; if any of the following are missing when a request for qualified names is received or when the announcement closes we will deem your application incomplete:

1. Resume complete in HHS Careers
2. Responses to Core Questions
3. Responses to Vacancy specific questions
4. Applicable Required Supporting Documentation

## SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION:

Supporting documentation required to complete the application process:

1. Resume - to be entered during online application process.

2. If claiming Indian Preference, you must submit the BIA Form 4432 "Verification of Indian Preference for Employment in BIA and IHS".
3. If claiming Veteran's Preference, include a copy of DD-214 Form, and SF-15 if claiming 10 point Veteran's Preference.
4. Copy of latest Personnel Action (SF-50), if a current or former Federal employee, and/or if requesting Reinstatement Eligibility.
5. Transcripts must be provided if substituting education for experience and/or if the position has a positive education requirement.
6. [Addendum to Declaration for Federal Employment](#), this is a required form.
7. [Form OF-306, Declaration for Federal Employment](#), is a required form.

### Contact Information:

Jeanne Taylor  
Phone: 916-930-3981 X335  
Fax: 916-930-3973  
TDD: 301-443-6394  
Email: [jeanne.taylor@ihs.gov](mailto:jeanne.taylor@ihs.gov)

Or write:

Department of Health and Human Services - IHS  
Portland Area Indian Health Service  
1220 SW 3rd Ave. Room 476  
Portland, OR 97205  
Fax: 916-930-3973

### What To Expect Next:

Once the job announcement closes, we will evaluate applications to determine qualifications and ranking. The most highly qualified candidates will be referred to the hiring manager for further consideration. You will be notified of the outcome by e-mail.

[General Information on the federal hiring process.](#)

Tired of voicemail? You can check the status of your application online at [My USAJOBS](#).

Never miss a job opportunity again! As a registered user of USAJOBS you can create up to five [Job Search Agents](#). These agents automatically retrieve jobs matching your criteria and e-mail the results to you at a time

period you select.

### EEO Policy Statement

The United States Government does not discriminate in employment on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, political affiliation, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, age, membership in an employee organization, or other non-merit factor.

### Reasonable Accommodation Policy Statement

Federal agencies must provide reasonable accommodation to applicants with disabilities where appropriate. Applicants requiring reasonable accommodation for any part of the application and hiring process should contact the hiring agency directly. Determinations on requests for reasonable accommodation will be made on a case-by-case basis.

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### Send Mail

**Send Mail to:**

Department of Health and Human Services - IHS  
Portland Area Indian Health Service  
1220 SW 3rd Ave. Room 476  
Portland, OR 97205  
Fax: 916-930-3973



### Questions?

**For questions about this job:**

Jeanne Taylor  
Phone: 916-930-3981 X335  
Fax: 916-930-3973  
TDD: 301-443-6394  
Email: [jeanne.taylor@ihs.gov](mailto:jeanne.taylor@ihs.gov)

USAJOBS Control Number: 1479164

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