

# Supervisory Economist/General Engineer/Physical Scientist

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Forest Service

Accepting applications

## Open & closing dates

🕒 03/15/2021 to 04/05/2021

## Pay scale & grade

GS 15

## Appointment type

Permanent

## Service

Competitive

## Salary

\$128,078 to \$128,078 per year

## Work schedule

Full-Time

## Locations

1 vacancy in the following location:

**Madison, WI**

## Relocation expenses reimbursed

No

## Telework eligible

Yes as determined by agency policy

## This job is open to



### The public

U.S. citizens, nationals or those who owe allegiance to the U.S.

## Clarification from the agency

Applications will be accepted from any U.S. citizen. Direct Hire Authority will be used to fill this position. Veterans Preference and traditional rating and ranking of applicants does not apply to this vacancy.

**Announcement number**

21-RES-11054657-DHAP-APL

**Control number**

594546400

## Duties

### Summary

This position will be filled using the Office of Personnel Management's Direct Hire Authority, please visit <https://www.opm.gov/policydata-oversight/hiring-information/direct-hire-authority/> for more information.

This Assistant Director for Research is located at the [USDA Forest Service Forest Products Laboratory](https://www.fpl.fs.fed.us/) (FPL) in [Madison, WI](http://www.city-data.com/city/Madison-Wisconsin.html).

For additional information about this position, please contact Cynthia D. West, PhD., Director, FPL at [cynthia.west@usda.gov](mailto:cynthia.west@usda.gov) or 503-887-0860.

### Responsibilities

- This employee serves as the Assistant Director in charge of Wood Products Research.
- Administers, coordinates, and directs scientific research programs related to a variety of problems related to wood and timber-based products.
- Responsible for science quality assurance and relevance related to the development of scientific research programs.
- Formulates policy related to the development of scientific research programs.
- Gives advice and provides leadership regarding the development of scientific research programs of the FPL.
- Supervises, directs, and develops staff.
- Assists project leaders or program managers with development of short and long-term programs of research.
- Supervisory duties are performed 25% or more of the time.

### Travel Required

50% or less - Post Covid, overnight travel up to 50% of the time may be expected.

**Supervisory status**

Yes

**Promotion Potential**

None

**Job family (Series)****0110 Economist**<https://www.usajobs.gov/Search/Results?j=0110>

## [0801 General Engineering](https://www.usajobs.gov/Search/Results?j=0801)

[/https://www.usajobs.gov/Search/Results?j=0801](https://www.usajobs.gov/Search/Results?j=0801)

## [1301 General Physical Science](https://www.usajobs.gov/Search/Results?j=1301)

[/https://www.usajobs.gov/Search/Results?j=1301](https://www.usajobs.gov/Search/Results?j=1301)

# Requirements

## Conditions Of Employment

- Must be a U.S. Citizen or National.
- Males born after 12-31-59 must be registered for Selective Service or exempt.
- Subject to satisfactory adjudication of background investigation and/or fingerprint check.
- Successful completion of one-year probationary period, unless previously served.
- Per Public Law 104-134 all Federal employees are required to have federal payments made by direct deposit to their financial institution.
- Successfully pass the E-Verify employment verification check. To learn more about E-Verify, including your rights and responsibilities, visit E-Verify.
- Selectee is subject to financial disclosure requirements and must submit form OGE-450, Confidential Financial Disclosure Report, within 30 days of appointment and annually thereafter.
- Obtain and use a government-issued charge card for business- related travel.

## Qualifications

In order to qualify, you must meet the [eligibility](http://www.usajobs.gov/Help/faq/application/eligibility/difference-from-qualifications/)

[\(http://www.usajobs.gov/Help/faq/application/eligibility/difference-from-qualifications/\)](http://www.usajobs.gov/Help/faq/application/eligibility/difference-from-qualifications/)

and [qualifications](http://www.usajobs.gov/Help/faq/application/eligibility/difference-from-qualifications/)

[\(http://www.usajobs.gov/Help/faq/application/eligibility/difference-from-qualifications/\)](http://www.usajobs.gov/Help/faq/application/eligibility/difference-from-qualifications/)

requirements as defined below by the closing date of the announcement. For more information on the qualifications

for this position, visit the [Office of Personnel Management's General Schedule Qualification Standards.](https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/classification-qualifications/general-schedule-qualification-standards/#url=List-by-Occupational-Series)

[/https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/classification-qualifications/general-schedule-qualification-standards/#url=List-by-Occupational-Series](https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/classification-qualifications/general-schedule-qualification-standards/#url=List-by-Occupational-Series)

Your application and resume must clearly show that you possess the experience requirements. Transcripts must be provided for qualifications based on education. Provide university course descriptions as necessary.

**This is an interdisciplinary position and may be filled in any of the job series/position titles listed below.** In addition to the specialized experience requirements, you must submit transcripts that show you meet the educational requirements for at least one of the series described in this announcement. Applicants may only be appointed to job series/position titles for which they meet all experience and educational requirements.

Applicants must meet all qualifications and eligibility requirements as defined below by the closing date of the announcement. For more information on the qualifications for this position, go to: <https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/classification-qualifications/general-schedule-qualification-standards/#url=GS-PROF>

[/https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/classification-qualifications/general-schedule-qualification-standards/#url=GS-PROF](https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/classification-qualifications/general-schedule-qualification-standards/#url=GS-PROF)

### **Basic Requirement for Economist Series (0110):**

Degree: Successful completion of a full 4-year course of study in an accredited college or university leading to a bachelor's or higher degree that included a major field of study in economics that included at least 21 semester hours in economics and 3 semester hours in statistics, accounting, or calculus.

**OR**

Combination of education and experience: courses equivalent to a major in economics, as shown in A above, plus

appropriate experience or additional education.

**Basic Requirement for General Engineering series (0801):**

Degree: Successful completion of a full 4-year course of study in an accredited college or university leading to a bachelor's or higher degree that included a major field of study in Engineering. Program must: (1) be from 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: (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**

Combination of education and experience including 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) theoretical and practical understanding of the engineering sciences and techniques and their applications to one of the branches of engineering as demonstrated by one of the following:

Professional registration/licensure - Current registration as a professional engineer by any State, the District of Columbia, Guam, or Puerto Rico.

Written Test - Passed the Fundamentals of Engineering (FE) examination, or a written test required for professional registration by an engineering licensure board.

Specified academic courses - Completion of at least 60 semester hours of courses in the physical, mathematical, and engineering sciences that included the courses specified in the degree requirements.

Related curriculum - 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, and at least 1 year of professional engineering experience acquired under professional engineering supervision.

**Basic Requirement for the Physical Science Series (1301):**

Degree: Successful completion of a full 4-year course of study in an accredited college or university leading to a bachelor's or higher degree that included a major field of study in: physical science, engineering, or mathematics that included 24 semester hours in physical science and/or related engineering science such as mechanics, dynamics, properties of materials, and electronics.

**OR**

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

**In addition to meeting the basic education qualifications for at least one of the series above, you must possess the following specialized experience listed below.**

Specialized experience is defined as experience that is typically in or related to the work of the position to be filled and has equipped you with the particular knowledge, skills, and abilities to successfully perform the duties of the position.

**Specialized Experience Requirement:**

For the GS-15 grade level: You must have at least one year specialized experience equivalent to the GS-14 level in the Federal service. **To qualify for this position at this grade level, experience in your resume must include all of the following:**

--Leading a program of scientific research or technology development for a multifaceted organization including planning, implementation, and results dissemination for science or technology delivery in one of the following areas: Engineering, Building Science, Economics, Physical Science, Forest Products, Forest Management, or Forest Resource Utilization;

--Analyzing and implementing new methods or techniques to solve national and regional scale management and organizational problems with unprecedented or novel aspects related to natural resources management or forest products technology, leadership, and science or technology delivery; and

--Building effective partnerships across diverse organizations including federal, state, local, and tribal government agencies, industry, non-governmental organizations, and academia.

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.

## Education

Graduate level education alone is not qualifying at this grade level. To qualify, your resume must show the specialized experience described above.

## Additional information

[Career Transition Assistance Plan \(CTAP\), Reemployment Priority List \(RPL\), or Interagency Career Transition Assistance Plan \(ICTAP\)](#)

[\(http://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/workforce-restructuring/employee-guide-to-career-transition/\)](http://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/workforce-restructuring/employee-guide-to-career-transition/)

: To exercise selection priority for this vacancy, CTAP/RPL/ICTAP candidates must meet the basic eligibility requirements and all selective factors.

Government Housing is not available

Daycare facilities are not available

This position is eligible for telework and other flexible work arrangements.

## How You Will Be Evaluated

This is a Direct-Hire Authority position. All applicants who meet the minimum qualifications, including any selective placement factor(s), if applicable, will be referred to the selecting official. Before a certificate is issued to the selecting official, the resume is reviewed to ensure that you meet all the qualification requirements. A rating will not be used; veteran's preference does not apply due to the existence of the Direct Hire authority for this position.

**Note:** If, after reviewing your resume and/or supporting documentation, a determination is made that you have inflated your qualifications and or experience, you may be found ineligible. Please follow all instructions carefully. Errors or omissions may affect your rating. Providing inaccurate information on Federal documents could be grounds for non-selection or disciplinary action up to including removal from the Federal service.

To view the application form, visit: <https://apply.usastaffing.gov/ViewQuestionnaire/11054657>  
<https://apply.usastaffing.gov/ViewQuestionnaire/11054657>

## Background checks and security clearance

### Security clearance

[Not Required](#)

[\(https://www.usajobs.gov/Help/faq/job-announcement/security-clearances/\)](https://www.usajobs.gov/Help/faq/job-announcement/security-clearances/)

### Drug test required

No

### Position sensitivity and risk

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

[\(https://www.usajobs.gov/Help/faq/job-announcement/security-clearances/\)](https://www.usajobs.gov/Help/faq/job-announcement/security-clearances/)

### Trust determination process

[Credentialing](#)

[\(https://www.usajobs.gov/Help/faq/job-announcement/security-clearances/\)](https://www.usajobs.gov/Help/faq/job-announcement/security-clearances/)

, [Suitability/Fitness](#)

[\(https://www.usajobs.gov/Help/faq/job-announcement/security-clearances/\)](https://www.usajobs.gov/Help/faq/job-announcement/security-clearances/)

## Required Documents

The following documents are required for your applicant package to be complete. Our office cannot be responsible for incompatible software, illegible fax transmissions, delays in the mail service, your system failure, etc. Encrypted documents will not be accepted. Failure to submit required, legible documents may result in loss of consideration.

Resume that includes: 1) personal information such as name, address, contact information; 2) education; 3) detailed work experience related to this position as described in the responsibilities section including work schedule, hours worked per week, dates of employment; title, series, grade (if applicable); 4) supervisor's phone number and whether or not the supervisor may be contacted for a reference check; 5) other qualifications.

Since education is required to qualify, you must submit a copy of your college transcripts. An unofficial copy is sufficient with the application; however, if you are selected, you will be required to submit official transcripts prior to entering on duty. Education must have been successfully obtained from an accredited school, college or university. If any education was completed at a foreign institute, you must submit with your application evidence that the institute was appropriately accredited by an accrediting body recognized by the U.S. Department of Education as equivalent to U.S. education standards. There are [private organizations](http://www.naces.org/members.htm) (<http://www.naces.org/members.htm>) that specialize in this evaluation and a fee is normally associated with this service. All transcripts must be in English or include an English translation.

Surplus or displaced employees eligible for CTAP, RPL, or ICTAP priority must provide: proof of eligibility (RIF separation notice, notice of proposed removal for declining a transfer of function or directed reassignment to another commuting area, notice of disability annuity termination), SF-50 documenting separation (as applicable), and your most recent SF-50 noting position, grade level, and duty location with your application per 5 CFR 330.

### **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](http://www.ed.gov/admins/finaid/accred/) (<http://www.ed.gov/admins/finaid/accred/>).

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.

## 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.

- [Benefits for federal employees](https://www.usa.gov/benefits-for-federal-employees#item-36407) (<https://www.usa.gov/benefits-for-federal-employees#item-36407>)
- [Healthcare insurance](https://www.opm.gov/healthcare-insurance/) (<https://www.opm.gov/healthcare-insurance/>)
- [Pay and leave](https://www.usajobs.gov/Help/working-in-government/pay-and-leave/) (<https://www.usajobs.gov/Help/working-in-government/pay-and-leave/>)

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 to Apply

Please view [Tips for Applicants](#)

<http://www.fs.fed.us/working-with-us/jobs/how-to-apply>

- a guide to the Forest Service application process.

Read the entire announcement and all instructions before you begin. You must complete this application process and submit all required documents electronically by 11:59p.m. Eastern Time (ET) on the closing date of this announcement.

Applying online is highly encouraged. We are available to assist you during business hours (8:00a.m. - 4:00p.m. (MST), Monday - Friday. If applying online poses a hardship, contact the Agency Contact listed below well before the closing date for an alternate method. All hardship application packages must be returned to Human Resources no later than noon ET on the closing date of the announcement in order for it to be entered into the system prior to the closing date.

This agency provides reasonable accommodation to applicants with disabilities on a case-by-case basis. Contact the Agency Contact to request this.

To begin, in USAJOBS click "Apply" and follow the instructions to attach your resume and required documents, complete the assessment questionnaire, and submit your application.

**NOTE:** If a document is resubmitted, it replaces the previous submission, which means the previous document is no longer available to the Human Resources Office. If you are adding to, rather than replacing a previous submission, you must upload both the old document and the new document. You must verify that uploaded documents from USAJOBS transfer into the Agency's staffing system as there is a limitation to the number of documents that can be transferred. However, once in the Agency's staffing system, you will have the opportunity to upload additional documents. Applicants may combine all like required documents (e.g. SF-50s or veteran docs) into one or more files and scan for uploading into the application. Each file must not exceed 3MB. Grouping like documents into files will simplify the application process. Documents must be in one of the following formats: GIF, JPEG, JPG, PDF, PNG, RTF, or Word (DOC or DOCX). Uploaded documents may not require a password, digital signature, or other encryption to open.

## Agency contact information

 HRM Contact Center

### Phone

[1-877-372-7248 X2](tel:1-877-372-7248)  
 [\(tel:1-877-372-7248 X2\)](tel:1-877-372-7248)

### Email

[SM.FS.FSJobs@usda.gov](mailto:SM.FS.FSJobs@usda.gov)  
 [\(mailto:SM.FS.FSJobs@usda.gov\)](mailto:SM.FS.FSJobs@usda.gov)

[Learn more about this agency](#)  
 [\(#agency-modal-trigger\)](#)

### Address

USDA Forest Service HRM Contact Center  
DO NOT MAIL IN APPLICATIONS, SEE INSTRUCTIONS  
IN THE ANNOUNCEMENT.  
Albuquerque, NM 87109  
US

A career with the Forest Service will challenge you to manage and care for more than 193 million acres of our nation's most magnificent lands, conduct research through a network of forest and range experiment stations and the Forest Products Laboratory, and provide assistance to State and private forestry agencies.

It's an awesome responsibility - but the rewards are as limitless as the views.

## Next steps

Your application will be reviewed to verify that you meet the eligibility and qualification requirements for the position prior to issuing referral lists to the selecting official. If further evaluation or interviews are required, you will be contacted. Log in to your [USAJOBS](http://www.usajobs.gov/) (<http://www.usajobs.gov/>) to check your application status.

Multiple positions may be filled from this announcement.

## Fair & Transparent

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

### Equal Employment Opportunity Policy

The United States Government does not discriminate in employment on the basis of race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy And gender identity), national origin, political affiliation, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, genetic information, age, membership in an employee organization, retaliation, parental status, military service, or other non-merit factor.

- [Equal Employment Opportunity \(EEO\) for federal employees & job applicants](https://www.eeoc.gov/federal/fed_employees/index.cfm) ([https://www.eeoc.gov/federal/fed\\_employees/index.cfm](https://www.eeoc.gov/federal/fed_employees/index.cfm))

### Reasonable Accommodation Policy

Federal agencies must provide reasonable accommodation to applicants with disabilities where appropriate. Applicants requiring reasonable accommodation for any part of the application process should follow the instructions in the job opportunity announcement. For any part of the remaining hiring process, applicants should contact the hiring agency directly. Determinations on requests for reasonable accommodation will be made on a case-by-case basis.

A reasonable accommodation is any change to a job, the work environment, or the way things are usually done that enables an individual with a disability to apply for a job, perform job duties or receive equal access to job benefits.

Under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, federal agencies must provide reasonable accommodations when:

- An applicant with a disability needs an accommodation to have an equal opportunity to apply for a job.
- An employee with a disability needs an accommodation to perform the essential job duties or to gain access to the workplace.
- An employee with a disability needs an accommodation to receive equal access to benefits, such as details, training, and office-sponsored events.

You can request a reasonable accommodation at any time during the application or hiring process or while on the job. Requests are considered on a case-by-case basis.

Learn more about [disability employment and reasonable accommodations](https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/disability-employment/reasonable-accommodations/) (<https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/disability-employment/reasonable-accommodations/>) or [how to contact an agency](https://www.usajobs.gov/Help/how-to/application/agency/contact/). (<https://www.usajobs.gov/Help/how-to/application/agency/contact/>)

## Legal and regulatory guidance

[Financial suitability](https://www.usajobs.gov/Help/working-in-government/fair-and-transparent/financial-suitability/)  
(<https://www.usajobs.gov/Help/working-in-government/fair-and-transparent/financial-suitability/>)

[Privacy Act](https://www.usajobs.gov/Help/working-in-government/fair-and-transparent/privacy-act/)  
(<https://www.usajobs.gov/Help/working-in-government/fair-and-transparent/privacy-act/>)

[Selective Service](#)

[Social security number request](https://www.usajobs.gov/Help/working-in-government/fair-and-transparent/social-security-number/)  
(<https://www.usajobs.gov/Help/working-in-government/fair-and-transparent/social-security-number/>)

[Signature & False statements](https://www.usajobs.gov/Help/working-in-government/fair-and-transparent/signature-false-statements/)  
(<https://www.usajobs.gov/Help/working-in-government/fair-and-transparent/signature-false-statements/>)

[New employee probationary period](#)

<https://www.usajobs.gov//Help/working-in-government/fair-and-transparent/selective-service/>

<https://www.usajobs.gov//Help/working-in-government/fair-and-transparent/probationary-period/>