



United States Department of the Interior U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

TEMPORARY RECRUITMENT BULLETIN

Announcement Number	NHM-2020-001	Who May Apply	United States Citizens
Position Title	Physical Scientist	Hiring Agency	INTERIOR, Geological Survey
Open Period	08/10/2020 - 08/11/2020	Duty Locations	1- Vacancy in Reston, VA
Series/Grade	GS-1301-12	For More Info	Name: Trent Richardson Email: trichardson@usgs.gov Phone#: 703-648-6722
Salary	\$86,335 - \$112,240	Promotion Potential	None

Duration of Appointment: This is a temporary excepted service position being filled under the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Schedule A Hiring Authority. The appointment is not-to-exceed 1-year and may be extended for up to one additional year without further competition. All qualified applicants, with or without Federal status, may apply and be considered. Appointment to this position, however, will not convey permanent status in the Federal service.

Work Schedule: Full-Time

Travel Required: Position may require up to 1 night of travel per month.

Relocation: Relocation expenses will not be paid.

Why Is It Great To Work For The U.S. Geological Survey?

Embark on an exciting future! From the peaks of the highest mountains to the depths of the deepest seas, the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) has career opportunities that make a difference in both the lives of others and in the environment. Would you like to join the more than 7,000 scientists, technicians, and support staff of the USGS who are working in more than 400 locations throughout the United States? Apply today! As the Nation's largest water, earth, and biological science and civilian mapping agency, the USGS collects, monitors, analyzes, and provides scientific understanding about natural resource conditions, issues, and problems. The diversity of our scientific expertise enables us to carry out large-scale, multi-disciplinary investigations and provide impartial, timely, and relevant scientific information to resource managers, planners, and other customers related to: the health of our ecosystems and environment; natural hazards that threaten us; natural resources we rely on, and; the impact of climate and land-use changes. For more information about the USGS please visit <http://www.usgs.gov>.

What General Information Do I Need To Know About This Position?

Salary: \$86,335 (Step 01) to \$112,240 (Step 10); **NOTE: First time hires to the Federal Government are typically hired at the Step 01.**

Key Requirements

--Must be a U.S. Citizen.

--Must be suitable for Federal employment, as determined by a fingerprint check and background investigation.

--More requirements are listed under Qualifications and Other Information.

Major Duties

As a Physical Scientist with the U.S. Geological Survey, Natural Hazards Mission Area, some of your specific duties will include:

- Leading the writing and collection of information for the USGS COVID-19 Response After Action Review (AAR). Conducting in-person focus group meetings with USGS teams involved in the response to the pandemic.
- Developing training modules and products to implement the COVID-19 'Lessons Learned' for USGS scientists and staff.
- Maintaining connections to and support of scientific groups with a DOI/USGS risk nexus such as the DOI Strategic Sciences Group, USGS Risk Community of Practice, and the Science Applications for Risk Reduction projects.

USGS has determined that the duties of this position are suitable for telework and the selectee may be allowed to telework with supervisor approval. The official worksite for the selectee is the duty location identified in this vacancy announcement. The selectee will typically report to this location on a regular and recurring basis.

For additional information on our internal telework policy, please reference the Department of the Interior Telework Handbook at: <https://www.doi.gov/telework/policies>.

Work Environment: The work is performed in an office environment.

Education

If this position requires specific educational course work to qualify, or you are qualifying based in whole or part on education, you are required to provide all unofficial transcripts (undergraduate, graduate, etc.) or list of course work, which includes semester hours earned and grade received, by the closing date of this announcement or you will be disqualified from further consideration. This proof may be faxed or emailed to the point of contact listed in this bulletin. Please ensure that all documentation is legible.

Education completed in colleges or universities outside the United States may be used to meet the above requirements. You must provide acceptable documentation that the foreign education is comparable to that received in an accredited educational institution in the United States. For more information on how

foreign education is evaluated, visit: <https://www.usgs.gov/about/organization/science-support/human-capital/how-foreign-education-evaluated-federal-jobs>.

Are There Any Special Requirements For This Position?

--A background investigation will be required for this position. Continued employment will be subject to the applicant's successful completion of a background security investigation and favorable adjudication. Failure to successfully meet these requirements will be grounds for termination.

--Applicants for this position must meet the following requirements: (1) possession of a valid State driver's license, and (2) possess a safe driving record. If selected, you will be required to provide proof of a valid State License and a copy of your driving record.

Evaluations

Basis of Rating: Applicants will not be rated or ranked. All applicants that meet the basic eligibility and qualification requirements of the position will be referred to the selecting official in veterans' preference eligible order.

Qualifications

BASIC EDUCATION REQUIREMENT: Applicants must meet A or B below to satisfy the basic education requirement for Physical Scientist, all grade levels.

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

B. A combination of education and experience--education equivalent to one of the majors shown in "A" above (24 semester hours or the equivalent in physical science, engineering, or mathematics) that included at least 24 semester hours or the equivalent in physical science and/or related engineering science as described above, plus appropriate experience and/or additional education for a total of 4 years. The education or combined education and experience must be comparable in type, scope and thoroughness to that acquired through successful completion of a 4-year course of study as described in "A" above. **(CLICK [HERE](#) FOR DETAILS ON HOW TO COMBINE EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE)**

For GS-12:

In addition to the basic education requirement as stated above, applicants must meet the following to qualify for the GS-12 level: One year of appropriate professional experience that is in or directly related to the duties of the position to be filled is qualifying if it is equivalent to at least the GS-11 level in the Federal service, and if it equipped the applicant with the knowledge, skills and abilities to perform successfully the duties of the position.

Examples of such experience may include planning and executing complex physical science studies, which usually involved intensive investigations into recognized phenomena. This work typically involved conventional methods and techniques though it required going beyond clear precedents, and required adapting methods to the problems at hand and interpreting findings in terms of their scientific

significance. At this level, physical scientists have the ability to independently perform scientific work of considerable difficulty.

You must meet all qualification and eligibility requirements for the position by the closing date of the announcement.

How to Apply

Applications for this vacancy must be submitted to the point of contact listed above via email BEFORE midnight Eastern Time (Washington, D.C. time) on the closing date of this announcement. If you fail to submit a complete application, you will not be considered for this position.

Required Documents

Resume

Transcripts - This position requires specific educational course work to qualify. You are required to provide all unofficial transcripts (undergraduate, graduate, etc.) or list of course work, that includes semester hours earned and grade received, by the closing date of this announcement or you will be disqualified from further consideration. Please ensure that all documentation is legible.

Veterans' Preference Eligibles - If you are claiming veterans' preference you must provide a legible copy of your DD-214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty, member 4 copy or any official documentation or statement from the Armed Forces that confirms your dates of service and that your separation, discharge, or release from active duty was under honorable conditions (i.e., Honorable or General Discharge). Note: If you have more than one DD-214 for multiple periods of active duty, submit a copy for each period of service. If you are currently on active military duty, you must provide documentation (e.g., campaign document, award citation, etc.), that verifies entitlement to veterans' preference and that your character of military service is honorable. If you are claiming 10-point veterans' preference, in addition to the documents specified above, you must also submit documentation that supports your claim, e.g., an official statement from the Department of Veterans Affairs (dated 1991 or later) or from a branch of the Armed Forces certifying the existence of a service-connected disability, or the award of the Purple Heart, etc. The overall rating must be identified on your certification letter or separation orders. Documentation must be received by the closing date shown in this vacancy announcement. If you fail to submit any of the required documentation, you will not be granted veterans' preference. Additional information on veterans' preference can be found in the [VetGuide](#).

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--Required documents may be faxed or emailed to the point of contact listed above. Please omit personally identifiable information.

Benefits

Temporary appointees expected to work at least 130 hours per month for at least 90 days will be eligible to enroll in a [Federal Employee Health Benefits \(FEHB\)](#) plan. Individuals eligible under this rule receive the full government contribution to their premiums regardless of work schedule and will also be eligible to participate in the [Flexible Spending Accounts](#) and [Federal Long Term Care Insurance Program](#). Temporary appointees are not covered by the Federal Employee Retirement System and are ineligible for Federal life, dental, or vision insurance.

Other Information

--Applicants who include vulgar, offensive, or inappropriate language or information in their application package will be ineligible for further consideration for this position.

--Under Executive Order 11935, only United States citizens and nationals (residents of American Samoa and Swains Island) may compete for civil service jobs. Agencies are permitted to hire non-citizens only in very limited circumstances where there are no qualified citizens available for the position.

--DOI uses E-Verify to confirm the employment eligibility of all newly hired employees. To learn more about E-Verify, including your rights and responsibilities, please visit www.dhs.gov/E-Verify.

--USGS employees are subject to Title 43, USC Section 31(a) and may not: (a) have any personal, private, direct or indirect interest in lands or mineral wealth of lands under survey; (b) have any substantial personal, private, direct or indirect interests in any private mining or mineral enterprise doing business with the United States; or (c) execute surveys or examinations for private parties or corporations.

--The application contains information subject to the Privacy Act (P.L. 93-579, 5 USC 552a). The information is used to determine qualifications for employment, and is authorized under Title 5, USC, Section 3302 and 3361.

--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.

-- 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.

--If you misrepresent your experience or education, or provide false or fraudulent information in or with your application, it may be grounds for not hiring you or for firing you after you begin work. Making false or fraudulent statements also may be punishable by fine or imprisonment.

-- If you are a male applicant born after December 31, 1959, you must certify that you have registered with the Selective Service System, or are exempt from having to do so under the Selective Service Law.