

Student Trainee
Civil Engineer GS-899
Civil Eng. Tech. GS-899
Finance GS-599

2013 Hourly Salary Range
\$13.00-\$20.00

Federal Highway Administration

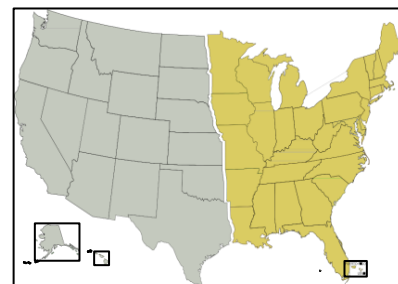
PATHWAYS INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

U.S. Department of Transportation | Eastern Federal Lands Highway Division

Internship Opportunities

Through this program, the Eastern Federal Lands Highway Division (EFLHD) hires college students to fill short term staffing needs in highway construction, roadway design or highway engineering, surveying, materials testing, and structural design and inspection. Students typically work during the summer months, the peak of the construction season in the eastern states. This program is the mechanism for recruitment into entry-level positions within the EFLHD. Through this program, the students gain valuable experience to complement their academic studies. The program provides an excellent opportunity for on-the-job experience, preparing the student for potential future consideration for employment with the Federal Highway Administration and the transportation industry.

Engineering students are assigned to highway construction or survey projects throughout the eastern section of the United States. Alternatively, students may be assigned to a roadway design or materials testing assignment at the EFLHD office in Sterling, Virginia or Sevierville, Tennessee. Typical duties for an Intern on these assignments are as follows:



Bridge Safety/Design/Inspection

Assignments emphasize field inspection of structures to locate and document any deficiencies found, such as spalling of concrete, cracks in the steel, and settlement of piers; taking measurements to completely describe the overall dimensions of the structure; and working with computer programs for the storage and retrieval of inspection data. An assignment in Bridge Safety is a prerequisite to an assignment in Bridge Design or Inspection.

Construction

Assignments emphasize the development of skills in performing inspection of construction operations (drainage structures, roadway, bridges, guardrails, and other highway related items) for compliance with the contract plans and specifications, measuring highway construction items, and record keeping for the purpose of payment to the contractor; and materials sampling and testing to approve and accept material for construction.

Design

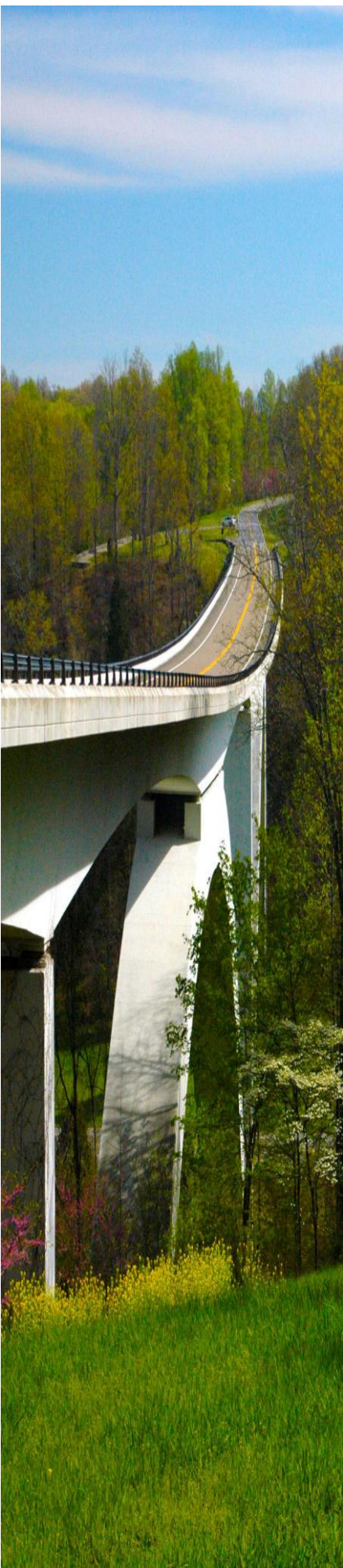
Assignments emphasize developing skills in preparing roadway plans and quantity calculations. As a member of a Highway Design Team, the student may perform quantity computations for Engineer's Estimates, earthwork computations, and basic geometric designs using CADD.

Environment

Assignments include assisting in the preparation of NEPA documents which are required to ensure that both the natural and human environment is studied for potential impacts. Public hearings and meetings are held and officiated by the Environmental Team in order to inform the general public, special interest groups, and Governmental agencies; in an effort to allow public participation in the environmental decision-making process.



Federal Highway Administration | Eastern Federal Lands Highway Division
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Geotechnical/Pavement Design

Assignments emphasize participating in field pavement condition surveys, nondestructive deflection testing, skid resistance testing, and the sampling of pavement and subgrade materials; assisting with data input and analysis for geotechnical and pavement design using applicable computer software and hardware; participating in field investigations using geophysical exploration equipment power auger drilling equipment; and other field testing and exploration procedures. Assignments involve performing pavement condition distress analysis, maintenance features inventories on park roads, using digital cameras to capture pavement condition and preparing Road Improvement Program reports for field reviews.

Hydraulics and Hydrology

Assignments involve providing technical assistance to highway and bridge designers on a wide variety of drainage problems commonly encountered in highway planning, design, and construction. Individuals will perform hydrologic studies and hydraulic analyses for large culverts, channels, storm sewer systems, bridge waterway openings, and environmental management and erosion control.

Project Support

Assignments emphasize duties in the area of the survey and mapping section. The student will be involved in field surveying by operating the total station and electronic level; keeping notes including the development of sketches; performing rod person duties; cutting brush and trees; and utilizing the field computer to graphically review the survey data.

Road Inventory

Assignments will allow the individual to work with the team using state-of-the-art equipment (automated road analyzer) to document the condition of pavements, geometrics, and drainage of existing park roads and parkways through video logs and roadside inventory reports. The data collected is used by management to define, support, and program improvement projects. The team supports the Federal agencies in developing pavement management systems.

Planning

Assignments will allow the individual to conduct transportation planning and engineering studies for Federal facilities to collect infrastructure information to assist the agency in planning future visitor transportation needs. This area is responsible for reviewing available information regarding infrastructure condition, management plans, and operational and safety needs to develop and recommend long-range plans for various highway construction programs.

Programming

Assignments will introduce the individual to the administrative duties from the initial setup of accounts at project conception to closing out the projects. Individuals will become familiar with the Federal Lands Transportation Programs that fund the majority of the Federal Lands Highway projects.

Special Projects

Assignments will expose the individuals to the responsibility for managing highly political and unique projects administered by EFLHD. This assignment may include assisting with the FHWA-EFL stewardship and oversight functions relative to the overall management and direction for the planning, coordination, and administration of complex, politically sensitive projects.

Finance

Assignments include exposure to several activities: obligation of documents, managing invoices, intergovernmental transfers and collection transactions, reconciliation, reimbursements, analysis of the distribution of revenues, and the input of data to the official accounting system.

Acquisition

Assignments expose individuals to the contract solicitation process. Construction procurement includes preparation of pre-solicitation and final solicitation documents, bid openings and evaluations, amendments, contract negotiation, and contract award activities. These assignments provide familiarity with Federal and Transportation Acquisition Regulations.





Who We Are

Nearly one-third of the land area of the United States is Federally-owned and administered. The Federal Government has a special interest in and responsibility for highways on/or serving these Federal Lands. Congress has established various programs to fund the construction of highways on Federal lands and has authorized the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to perform engineering and related services in connection with their improvement. FHWA administers the Federal Lands Access Program providing funds for projects on Federal Lands to access transportation facilities that are located on, adjacent to, or that provide access to Federal lands. The Federal Lands Transportation Program funds projects that improve access within the Federal estate (national forests, national parks, national wildlife refuges, national recreation areas, and other Federal public lands) on transportation facilities in the national Federal Lands transportation inventory owned and maintained by the Federal government. The program impacts the traveling public by providing safe and scenic means of surface transportation.

The Eastern Federal Lands Highway Division (EFLHD) operates within these programs, serving the transportation engineering needs of Federal Land Management Agencies in 31 eastern states including Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands. EFLHD actively administers the survey, design, and construction of Forest Highway system roads, National Park Service roads, Tribal roads, defense access roads, and other Federal Lands roads. In addition, EFLHD provides traffic monitoring services, the road inventory program, asset management, pavement management systems, and bridge inspection services throughout the United States and Territories.

At Eastern Federal Lands, we share a vision to be known for innovative transportation solutions that provide access to and through public lands — so travelers appreciate the journey as much as the destination. Our mission is building accessible and scenic roads so everyone has an opportunity to enjoy the national treasures within our Federal Lands.

The Next Steps

Eligibility

Students must be enrolled in a curriculum leading to a degree in Civil Engineering, Civil Engineering Technology, Construction Engineering Management Technology, Geomatics, Environment, Financial Management, Planning or related fields. Students must also be enrolled in taking at least a half-time course load, have a 2.0 or higher GPA and be in good academic standing.

How to Apply

In the fall, Eastern Federal Lands Highway Division will post a vacancy announcement for the FHWA Pathways Internship Program on USAJOBS.GOV, the Federal Government's official one-stop source for Federal jobs and employment information. There will be a short window of opportunity to complete the online application process. A resume and unofficial transcript will be required to apply.

Employment Offers

Eastern Federal Lands Highway Division will notify applicants in the winter. The official offers of employment come from our Administrative Services team in Atlanta, Georgia.

