

NIST Earthquake Engineering Research Positions

Announcement

The Department of Commerce National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Building and Fire Research Laboratory (BFRL) seeks new earthquake engineering research staff members in support of its role in the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program (NEHRP). FY 2009 increases to the BFRL earthquake engineering research budget make it possible for NIST to consider staff recruitment.

Engineers with strong backgrounds in seismic structural design and analysis, development of seismic provisions for national model building codes, structural dynamics, performance-based engineering, numerical modeling of structural behavior, non-linear structural analysis, software development, building performance and design, and soil-foundation-structure interaction associated with seismic risk mitigation are sought to participate in comprehensive in-house research programs, and manage extramural research efforts.

NIST seeks senior engineers, preferably with advanced degrees in the earthquake engineering field, or equivalent experience in research and practice. Senior positions will be filled at the ZP-IV and ZP-V levels, commensurate with each individual's education and experience. Junior engineers who have the required education, or equivalent experience, may be considered for positions at lower grade levels commensurate with their combined education and experience.

This is an excellent opportunity for individuals with strong technical credentials in academia, industry, or government service who are interested in public service leadership and a challenging career in developing a new cutting-edge NEHRP research program.

NIST would appreciate hearing from candidates as soon as possible. **U.S. citizenship is required for permanent NIST positions**, but non-U.S. citizens employed by accredited U.S. universities may be considered for assignments to NIST under provisions of the Intergovernmental Personnel Act (IPA). Address inquiries to **NEHRP Director Jack Hayes** (email: jack.hayes@nist.gov, telephone: 301-975-5640).

General information regarding NIST employment is listed on the following page.

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Employment Information

- **NIST History**

The NIST staff includes three Nobel laureates, a MacArthur Fellow winner, a National Medal of Science winner, an astronaut who has flown twice on the Space Shuttle as a mission specialist, and several members of the National Academies. BFRL is one of the Nation's primary federal laboratories serving the construction and building industries and has statutory responsibilities for fire prevention and control, earthquake hazards reduction, windstorm impact reduction, and building and fire safety investigations.

- **NIST Location**

NIST is located on a 578-acre campus about 25 miles from the center of Washington, D.C., in Gaithersburg, MD, just off Interstate 270 in Montgomery County. NIST has free parking on site and is well connected to the Metro (subway) system via a shuttle service for official visitors and staff. Local public schools are among the finest in the Nation.

- **Salary and Bonuses**

Salary will be determined based on the qualifications and experience of the selected candidate. The 2009 annual salary ranges are: ZP-V positions (GS-15), from \$120,830 to \$153,200; ZP-IV (GS 13/14) positions, from \$86,927 to \$133,543; and ZP-III positions, from \$60,989 to \$95,206. Salary limits are typically modified each year based on approved cost of living adjustments. NIST employees are also considered for performance-related pay increases and bonuses as part of the annual performance appraisal process. NIST also has authority to provide new employee recruitment bonuses under certain circumstances.

- **Benefits**

Federal employees are offered a generous benefits package. This includes a wide choice of health insurance plans, group life insurance, flexible spending accounts for dependent care and medical care, health savings accounts, long-term care insurance, and retirement plan (with a tax-deferred 401K savings plan). Annual and sick leave benefits are provided in accordance with established federal policies. Detailed information on these benefit programs may be found at http://www.opm.gov/insure/health/new_employees.asp. A child care center is available on the NIST campus.

- **Relocation Expenses**

Where appropriate, NIST will cover relocation expenses in accordance with federal regulations, such as moving household goods, travel to NIST for the employee and immediate family members, house hunting trip, and temporary living quarters and per diem expenses. NIST will not cover costs associated with real estate transactions such as the purchase or sale of a house.

- **Additional Information**

For additional information, interested individuals may visit the BFRL career web site (<http://www.bfrl.nist.gov/careers/>). NIST collects formal applications for current and future job openings in an automated Applicant Supply File (ASF) system. Applicants are considered when NIST fills a Direct Hire vacancy. Applications may be submitted at this web site: <https://rproxy.nist.gov/asf/>.

- **Equal Opportunity Employment**

NIST is an Equal Employment Opportunity employer that values, celebrates, and thrives on the rich diversity, abilities, and perspectives of its staff. NIST pledges equal access to employment, facilities, and programs regardless of race, color, religion, gender, disability status, age, national origin, or veteran status.