Environmental Scientist, GS-0401-12/13 (DE/CR)

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION

1 vacancy in the following location:

📍 New Orleans, LA

Work Schedule is Full Time / Career or Career-Conditional - Permanent

Opened Monday 1/23/2017
(3 day(s) ago)

岙 Closes Monday 1/30/2017
(4 day(s) away)

Salary Range
$72,168.00 to $111,560.00 / Per Year

Series & Grade
GS-0401-12/13

Promotion Potential
13

Supervisory Status
No

Who May Apply
All qualified United States Citizens or Nationals.

Control Number
463130800

Job Announcement Number
NOS-ORR-2017-0004

Job Summary

About the Agency

This position is located in the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), National Ocean Service (NOS), Office of Response and Restoration (ORR), in New Orleans, Louisiana.

The full performance level of this position is GS-13.

This position is also announced under vacancy number, NOS-ORR-2017-0002, which is open to status candidates. You must apply to both announcements if you want to be considered for both.

* A one year probationary period may be required.

* Payment of relocation expenses is authorized.

* This position is in the bargaining unit

NOTE: *This vacancy may be used to fill other Environmental Scientist, GS-0401-12/13, positions throughout NOAA. The position must be alike (e.g.: within the same geographic locations, same grade/band requires the same qualifications as indicated in this vacancy announcement).

Duties

At the GS-13 level, under the supervision of the Regional Operations Branch Chief, the individual selected for this position will:

• Serve as NOAA Scientific Support Coordinator (SSC) for the region in which he or she is assigned.

• Respond to and travel as necessary for spill response (is on-call 24 hours a day, 7 days a week) with the region and to other parts of the country or U.S. Territories.

• Serve as a principal advisor to the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) Federal on-scene commander during hazardous materials spill response in the ocean, coastal zone, and/or inland lakes and rivers for scientific and technical information.

• Communicate, both in writing and orally, technical positions and/or results for analyses of ecological effects of oil or hazardous material spills and various response techniques to appropriate audiences.

• Serve as liaison and maintain relationships with the regional scientific and response communities to determine the availability and capability to respond to USCG requests.

• Conduct training.

• Participate on teams to develop new plans, technology and/or techniques for hazardous material spill preparedness and response.

The GS-12 is developmental leading to performance of the duties described above.

https://www.usajobs.gov/GetJob/PrintPreview/463130800
**Travel Required**
- 50% or Greater
- 50% or greater Regional/Domestic Travel required. Several times per month - Meetings, training, drills, and incident responses.

**Relocation Authorized**
- Yes

**Key Requirements**
- Must be a U.S. Citizen or National to apply.
- Required to pass a background investigation and fingerprint check.
- Must be suitable for Federal employment.
- Must be registered for Selective Service, if applicable (www.sss.gov)
- Qualifications requirements must be met by closing date of announcement.

**Qualifications**
Qualification requirements in the vacancy announcements are based on the U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM) Qualification Standards Handbook, which contains federal qualification standards. This handbook is available on the Office of Personnel Management’s website located at: [http://www.opm.gov/qualifications](http://www.opm.gov/qualifications).

**BASIC REQUIREMENTS:** This position has a positive Education Requirement in addition to at least one year of Specialized Experience. Transcripts must be submitted with your application package. You MUST meet the following requirements:

**EDUCATION:**

**Degree:** Biological sciences, agriculture, natural resource management, chemistry, or related disciplines appropriate to the position.

OR

**Combination of education and experience:** Courses equivalent to a major, as shown above, plus appropriate experience or additional education.

-AND-

**SPECIALIZED EXPERIENCE:** Applicants must possess one year of specialized experience equivalent in difficulty and responsibility to the next lower grade level in the Federal Service. Specialized experience is experience that has equipped the applicant with the particular competencies/knowledge, skills and abilities to successfully perform the duties of the position. This experience need not have been in the federal government.

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.

**To qualify at the GS-12 level:**

SPECIALIZED EXPERIENCE: One full year (52 weeks) of specialized experience equivalent to the GS-11 in the Federal service. Specialized experience MUST include all of the following:

- Conducting studies of ocean and/or coastal ecosystems.
- Working with environmental pollution (i.e., oil, chemical), spill preparedness, response and/or remediation in aquatic habitats.

**To qualify at the GS-13 Level:**

SPECIALIZED EXPERIENCE: One full year (52 weeks) of specialized experience equivalent to the GS-12 in the Federal service. Specialized experience MUST include all of the following:
• Conducting studies of ocean and/or coastal ecosystems.
• Working with environmental pollution (i.e., oil, chemical), spill preparedness, response and/or remediation in aquatic habitats.
• Facilitating and/or coordinating teams or workgroups.
• Communicating complex and potentially controversial information or technical data in formal settings to decision-makers and/or the media.

**College Transcript:** If you are qualifying based on education, submit a copy of your college transcript that lists college courses detailing each course by the number and department (i.e., bio 101, math 210, etc.), course title, number of credit hours and grade earned. You must submit evidence that any education completed in a foreign institution is equivalent to U.S. education standards with your resume. You may submit an unofficial copy of the transcript at the initial phase of the application process. If course content cannot be easily identified from the title of the course as listed on your transcript, you must submit an official course description from the college/university that reflects the content at the time the course was taken.

**Note:** Your college transcript is used to verify successful completion of degree, or college course work. An official college transcript will be required before you can report to duty.

**Security Clearance**
Q - Nonsensitive

**What To Expect Next**
You will be notified of your application status through USAJOBS at four points during the hiring process, as applicable. You can check the status of your application by accessing the USAJOBS website at [http://www.usajobs.gov](http://www.usajobs.gov) and clicking on “Track Your Online Application.” The four points of notification are:

1. Application Received or Application Incomplete
2. Minimum Qualification Requirement Met or Minimum Qualification Not Met;
3. Eligible (Application Referred to the Selecting Official) or Eligible (Application Not Referred to the Selecting Official); and
4. Selected or Not Selected.

By submitting your application, you are certifying the accuracy of the information contained in your application. If you make a false statement in any part of your application, you may not be hired; you may be terminated after you begin work; or, you may be fined or jailed. After making a tentative job offer, we will conduct a suitability/security background investigation. You will be required to submit official documentation prior to appointment. The agency will then verify the information provided on your application (i.e., degree, veterans’ preference, disability, etc.).

**BENEFITS**
[Review our benefits](http://www.usajobs.gov)

**Other Information**
ICTAP candidates will be eligible if it is determined that they have exceeded the minimum qualifications for the position by attaining at least a rating of 85 out of 100. Information about ICTAP eligibility is on the Office of Personnel Management’s Career Transition Resources website at: [Employee Guide to Career Transition](http://www.usajobs.gov)

**ICTAP** applicants MUST submit the following documents:
1. A copy of your RIF separation notice; notice of proposed removal for failure to relocate; notice of disability annuity termination; certification from your former agency that it cannot place you after your recovery from a compensable injury; or certification from the National Guard Bureau or Military Department that you are eligible for disability retirement;

2. A copy of your SF-50 “Notification of Personnel Action” documenting your RIF separation, noting your positions, grade level, and duty location, and/or Agency certification of inability to place you through RPL, etc;

3. A copy of your latest performance appraisal including your rating; and

4. Any documentation from your agency that shows your current promotion potential.

NOAA participates in e-Verify. E-Verify is an Internet based system operated by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) in partnership with the Social Security Administration (SSA) that enables participating employers to electronically verify the employment eligibility of their newly hired employees.

Your complete application, including required documents, must be received by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time (ET) on the closing date of this announcement.

To apply on-line, you must complete and submit an application by accessing the USAJOBS website at http://www.usajobs.gov. To begin, click the Apply Online button near the bottom of this screen and follow the prompts to register into your USAJOBS account, answer the questions, and submit all required documents.

To return to your saved application, log in to your USAJOBS account at http://www.usajobs.gov and click on "Application Status." Click on the position title, and then select Apply Online to continue.

If you have problems completing your on-line application, including problems submitting your supporting documents, please contact the Help Desk by e-mail at mgshelp@monster.com or by phone at (866) 656-6831. The help desk is available Monday-Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. ET.

For instructions on submitting your application in an alternate format, please contact the Agency Contact listed in this vacancy announcement.

How You Will Be Evaluated

We will review your resume, optional cover letter and supporting documentation to determine if you meet the minimum qualifications for the position. If you meet the minimum qualifications stated in the vacancy announcement, we will compare your resume, optional cover letter and supporting documentation to your responses on the scored occupational questionnaire (True/False, Yes/No, Multiple Choice questions) and place you in one of the three pre-defined categories.

The categories are “gold”, “silver” and “bronze”. However, your resume or optional cover letter must support your responses to the scored occupational questionnaire, or your score may be lowered. Candidates placed in the “gold” category will be identified for referral to the hiring manager and may be invited for an interview.

How you will be evaluated for preference eligibility: Within each category, those entitled to veterans’ preference will be listed at the top of the pre-defined category for which they are placed. Preference eligible with a service-connected disability of 10% or more will be listed at the top of the highest quality category (gold) depending on the position and grade level of the job. For more information on Category Rating, please go to Category Rating.

The scored occupational questionnaire will evaluate you on the following competencies; please do not provide a separate written response:

• Ability to respond 24/7 in the office and/or on-scene
• Knowledge of pollution preparedness, spill and other emergency response procedures and practices
• Skill performing field work and environmental sampling
• Ability to synthesize data and scientific theory for presentations
• Ability to work independently
• Ability to train others
• Ability to work with a diverse team
To preview questions please click here.

- **Resume showing relevant experience; cover letter optional.** Your resume must indicate your citizenship and if you are registered for Selective Service if you are a male born after 12/31/59. Your resume must include information about your paid and nonpaid work experience related to this position including: job title, duration of employment (mm/dd/yy – mm/dd/yy), hours per week, duties and accomplishments, salary, and your education. For work in the Federal service, please include the grade level for the position/s. Your resume may be used to validate your responses to the scored occupational questionnaire.

- **If you are a veteran with preference eligibility and you are claiming 5-points veterans' preference,** you must submit a copy of your Member 4 DD-214 stating disposition of discharge or character of service or other valid proof of eligibility (i.e., statement of service that shows service dates AND character of service). **If you are claiming 10-point veterans' preference,** you must also submit an SF-15, "Application for 10-Point Veterans' Preference" plus the proof required by that form. For more information on veterans' preference see http://www.opm.gov/staffingPortal/Vetguide.asp#VeteransEmploymentAct1998.

- **Active Duty Service Members**— You must submit a statement of discharge/certification of release or an official written document from the armed forces that certifies you are expected to be discharged or released from active duty service in the armed forces under honorable conditions no later than 120 days from the date the announcement closes. Enlisted Record Briefs and military identification do NOT qualify as official documentation. If the appropriate information is not submitted to confirm the discharge status, dates of service, etc., you will not be considered for this job opportunity under Veteran Preference procedures. To gain access to your DD-214 online please visit http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/get-service-records.html.

- **Interagency Career Transition Assistance Plan (ICTAP) and Interagency Career Transition Assistance Plan (ICTAP) documentation** if applicable (see other information).

- **Education.** If this position requires proof of higher education, you must submit an unofficial transcript or a list of courses that includes the following information: name of accredited institution, grades earned, completion dates, and quarter and semester hours earned. **Special Instructions for Foreign Education:** Education completed in foreign colleges or universities must be evaluated in terms of equivalency to that acquired in U.S. colleges and universities. Applicants educated in whole or in part in foreign countries must submit sufficient evidence, including transcripts, to an accredited private organization for an equivalency evaluation of course work and degree. A listing of these accredited organizations can be found on the Department of Education’s website. You **MUST** provide a copy of the letter containing the results of the equivalency evaluation with a course by course listing along with your application. Failure to provide such documentation by the closing date of the announcement will result in lost consideration.

---

**National Oceanic And Atmospheric Administration**

**Department Of Commerce**

**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

**Contact**

Gerry Jeremie  
Phone: 703-457-2192  
Email: gerry.jermie@noaa.gov

**Address**

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
WFMO Staffing Division  
1305 East West Highway  
Silver Spring  
MD  
US  
000-000-0000