



Washington Metrorail Safety Commission (WMSC) currently has an opening for a full time **Program Specialist - Operations**.

The WMSC is the designated State Safety Oversight Agency (SSOA) responsible for overseeing the safety of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) Metrorail system, which operates rail transit in Maryland, DC and Virginia. The WMSC is responsible for implementing a program in compliance with Federal and other applicable regulations.

Position Overview

This role will support the WMSC Subject Matter Expert, Operations on state safety oversight activities as it pertains to safety of rail operations at WMATA Metrorail.

The selected candidate must have sufficient knowledge of rail and other transportation modal industry best practices and benchmarks to monitor and evaluate the operations and any changes recommended or underway at the WMATA Metrorail system effectively and collaboratively.

The selected candidate will ensure a commitment to effective safety oversight program administration through collaboration and the establishment of working relationships with WMSC personnel, WMSC contractors, and WMATA personnel.

This position will report to the WMSC Subject Matter Expert, Operations.

Responsibilities

- Plan and carry out field observations and document and records reviews of the Metrorail System to ensure that WMATA Metrorail is following their Public Transportation Agency Safety Plan and associated policies and procedures. This would include scheduling and conducting observations of rail operators, roadway worker safety equipment, vehicles, facilities, equipment, working conditions, and work practices.
- Verify and ensure WMATA Metrorail's compliance with its policies and procedures, WMSC requirements, and industry best practices.
- Investigate allegations of hazardous conditions or non-compliance regarding unsafe conditions in the Metrorail system.
- Participate in investigations of WMATA Metrorail safety events and support the WMSC in development of investigation reports, including providing technical feedback to WMSC Investigations program team on accuracy of content and corrective action recommendations.
- Assist WMSC in developing technical written and other materials to communicate information to audiences of various backgrounds.
- Communicate and explain technical information to audiences of various backgrounds
- Assist the WMSC in independently evaluating corrective actions proposed by WMATA Metrorail.



- Assist with overseeing the implementation of Metrorail corrective action plans including reviewing, monitoring and verifying completeness

Qualifications

Experience

A minimum of 3 years of direct practical experience in a rail transit agency, at a State Safety Oversight Agency, in another organization conducting rail safety oversight, with another entity performing rail operations activities, or, direct experience with Safety Management Systems (SMS) in any of the modes in the transportation industry.

Knowledge and familiarity of applicable Federal, State, and Local laws and regulations is preferred, including industry best practices such as those issued by the American Public Transportation Association (APTA) and American Railway Engineering and Maintenance-of-Way Association (AREMA).

Education

A Bachelor's degree is preferred.

Key Qualifications, skills and abilities:

- Excellent English-language written and verbal communication skills
- Ability to work in a team environment comprised of individuals from diverse cultures and geographies
- Ability to observe, receive, and otherwise obtain relevant information regardless of information source
- Use of logic and reasoning to identify the strength and weaknesses of alternative solutions, conclusions, or approaches to problems
- Ability and enthusiasm to acquire needed knowledge to perform duties
- Ability to manage multiple priorities to meet deadlines and commitments
- Ability to manage projects to fruition, on time
- Ability to take direction and constructive criticism from supervisor and management
- Ability to conduct all aspects of the position, consistently
- Ability to be a team player who assists the WMSC in fulfilling its overall safety mandate
- Ability to adhere to strong professional ethics
- Ability to independently carry out duties following direction by supervisor/management and recognize any related duties on own initiative
- Ability to use common software for preparing work products such as presentations, reports, graphs, tables, and for ensuring proper record retention
- Ability to effectively use the internet and other collaboration software to perform assigned work



Certification

Successful candidate will be required to complete all courses of the Public Transportation Safety Certification Training Program (PTSCTP) within 3 years of joining the WMSC.

Physical Requirements

WMSC work may take place at any time of day as warranted. Work may take place on or about WMATA property where WMSC personnel must be alert at all times for the approach of trains or rolling equipment, slips/trips/fall hazards, and hazardous materials. WMSC personnel must also take precautions with electrical hazards associated with revenue and non-revenue vehicles and equipment, the electrified third rail, and other hazards throughout the Metrorail system. WMSC personnel may be exposed to unfavorable weather conditions, including temperature extremes and precipitation, and other environmental discomforts such as insects and vegetation. Personal protective equipment (PPE) will be required for specific job functions and will be provided by the WMSC.

Additional Requirements

Absent an approved exemption, this position may require an individual to be fully vaccinated by an FDA-approved or authorized COVID-19 vaccine upon hire as a condition of continued employment.

Work location

Open to remote work, in proximity to a WMATA Metrorail station location.

Given the frequency of site visits to the WMATA Metrorail system by WMSC personnel, including the need to respond quickly to an event scene, the incumbent for this position must live within 20 miles of any Metrorail station.

WMSC offers a robust compensation and benefit package

All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability, or status as a protected veteran.

Office Location: 750 First Street NE, #900, Washington, DC 20002

Apply by visiting the WMSC employment opportunities page at [Employment Opportunities – Washington Metrorail Safety Commission \(wmsc.gov\)](#) and sending your cover letter with salary requirements and resume to hr@wmsc.gov.