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**Job Title:** Railroad Safety Inspector (Track) - GS - 2121 -12 (Open to U.S. Citizens) JR  
**Department:** Department Of Transportation  
**Agency:** Federal Railroad Administration  
**Job Announcement Number:** FRA.R6-2015-0093

**SALARY RANGE:** \$70,192.00 to \$91,255.00 / Per Year  
**OPEN PERIOD:** Tuesday, July 28, 2015 to Monday, August 10, 2015  
**SERIES & GRADE:** GS-2121-12  
**POSITION INFORMATION:** Full Time - - Permanent  
**PROMOTION POTENTIAL:** 12  
**DUTY LOCATIONS:** 1 vacancy in the following location:  
 Saint Louis, MO [View Map](#)  
**WHO MAY APPLY:** **Applications will be accepted from any U.S. Citizen.**

**SECURITY CLEARANCE:** Not Applicable  
**SUPERVISORY STATUS:** No

**JOB SUMMARY:**
[About the Agency](#)

FRA is committed to fostering a diverse, highly skilled workforce capable of meeting or exceeding our strategic goals with efficiency, innovation, and a constant focus on better serving our customers.

You will serve as a Railroad Safety Inspector (Track). As an inspector you will enforce Federal safety and health regulations that apply to railroad track and railroad workers. The objective of this position is to minimize the risk of human casualty and societal loss due to train accidents caused by defective conditions of railroad track and structures, or hazardous working conditions for railroad employees. The demands of the position require skills in evaluation, fact-finding, report writing; comprehension and application of technical and regulatory standards, as well as the ability to gain cooperation of individuals and organizations.

This position is perfect for a mid-level professional with a strong technical background in applying current Federal railroad safety track standards, as well as strong analytical and communication skills; and experience with conducting inspections pertaining to railroad track to identify defects; mission focused, and is looking for great health benefits and a stable work-life environment.

This position is eligible for full-time telework, and the selectee must telework within the geographic area of the duty location stated above. The duty location for a full-time teleworker is usually the residence or other approved telework site. The actual duty location is subject to approval by the Regional Administrator. Salary will be adjusted based on the duty location.

A writing sample will be requested from applicants who are determined as qualified and referred to the selecting official.

**TRAVEL REQUIRED**

- 75% or Greater

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**Job Announcement Number:**  
FRA.R6-2015-0093

**Control Number:** 411152100

- This position requires extensive travel. The travel is a condition of employment.

## RELOCATION AUTHORIZED

- No

## KEY REQUIREMENTS

- Applications will be accepted from any U.S. Citizen.
- Submit application and resume online by 11:59 PM EST on the closing date.
- Position is eligible for Full-time Telework, see Benefits & Other Info Tab.
- You must meet the Selective Factors to qualify.
- Announcement also advertised merit promotion: FRA.R6-2015-0092.
- Job announcement may be used to fill similar positions within 30 days.

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## DUTIES:

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### The Railroad Safety Inspector (Track):

- Performs inspections and monitoring functions to assure compliance with Federal safety and health regulations among railroads, railroad employees, and contractors assigned to the geographical territory.
- Investigates complaints from railroad employees, the general public, or Legislative or governmental representatives involving unsafe conditions of track or the other subject areas of responsibility, and interviews complainants, railroad officials, and any parties as required for proper investigation of the complaint.
- Performs, either individually, or as a member or leader of a team, investigations of significant train accidents resulting in serious injury to persons or property damage and determines probable cause of accident or incident and whether any Federal regulations were violated.
- Initiates and maintains contacts with employees in other Federal, State and local government agencies, as well as mid-level officials of the railroads and rail labor organizations in connection with issues relating to Federal railroad assistance and enforcement of Federal railroad safety regulations.

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## QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED:

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To be qualified for a Railroad Track Safety Inspector, you **MUST** have demonstrated knowledge in the following areas:

- The railroad industry, including economic and operating considerations and equipment.
- General safety and health principles and practices applicable to the railroad industry.
- Railroad accident investigation techniques.
- Railroad track system construction, maintenance, testing, or inspection techniques.
- Safety criteria for track structure and engineering.
- Federal railroad track safety standards.

### You must also meet the following Selective Factors:

- **Experience in the railroad industry that has provided you with the knowledge of general railroad safety health principles and practices; as well as railroad investigation and inspection techniques.**
- **Experience applying Federal railroad track and roadway worker safety standards/regulations for the purpose of inspecting and identifying track and roadway worker safety deficiencies.**

**For the GS 12**, to qualify, you must have at least one year of specialized experience equal or equivalent to the following:

- **Experience conducting track inspections and applying Part 213 and 214 regulations for the purpose of reporting on the safety compliance conditions of the railroad track, facilities, safe working procedures and provisions of the employees, and the surrounding track right-of-way areas and have knowledge of proper remedial action to those conditions.**
- **Experience analyzing information that can be used during the course of conducting railroad inspections, or used to determine probable cause of railroad related collisions, derailments, or other accidents/incidents.**
- **Experience writing, presenting, and reporting on information pertaining to railroad track**

### safety inspections and investigations.

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.

**Applicants must meet all qualification requirements by the closing date of this announcement.**

#### CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT:

- **SELECTIVE SERVICE:** Males born after 12-31-59 must be registered for Selective Service.
- **INTERVIEW:** Applicants may be required to demonstrate in a pre-employment interview that they possess the personal characteristics necessary for Railroad Safety work.
- **DECLARATION OF FEDERAL EMPLOYMENT:** The selectees for railroad safety positions will be required to complete a Declaration for Federal Employment to determine suitability for Federal employment and to authorize a background investigation.
- **DRUG TEST:** This position has been determined to be a critical safety/security position as defined in the Department of Transportation (DOT) Order, DOT 3910.1D entitled "Drug and Alcohol-Free Departmental Workplace." Therefore, if selected for the position you will be required to submit to a pre employment/pre-appointment drug test, you will also be subject to Random Drug Testing.
- **DRIVER'S LICENSE:** Railroad Safety Inspectors travel frequently, which requires being away from the official duty station for several consecutive nights. All Railroad Safety Inspectors are required to possess a valid state drivers license at all times while employed by the Federal Rail Administration (FRA) in order to perform the duties of their positions.
- **RELOCATION EXPENSES:** Expenses related to relocation (e.g. travel and transportation) will not be paid.
- **GOVERNMENT TRAVEL CARD REQUIREMENT:** This position involves travel. A government contractor-issued travel card will be issued and must be retained for official business only.
- **DEU REQUIREMENTS:** Applicants selected under delegated examining procedures may be required to successfully complete a one-year probationary period (unless already completed).

#### HOW YOU WILL BE EVALUATED:

If you meet the qualification requirements, your application will be placed in one of four categories: Platinum, Gold, Silver or Bronze, which is based upon your responses to the vacancy questions. Within these categories, applicants eligible for veteran's preference that have provided supporting documents will receive selection priority over non-veterans. The top rated applications will be reviewed for the quality of your experience, education and training relevant to the position. If your resume does not support the specialized experience or if your application does not support your answers to the Vacancy Specific Questions, your final rating may be modified and/or you may be disqualified from consideration.

To preview questions please [click here](#).

#### BENEFITS:

You can review our benefits at:

<https://jobs.mgsapps.monster.com/dot/vacancy/preview!benefits.hms?orgId=2&jnum=72633>

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Displaced employees may be eligible for ICTAP or CTAP priority consideration. For more information, please review [the OPM Employee's Guide to Career Transition](#).

#### OTHER INFORMATION:

**This vacancy is also announced under a FRA Only internal vacancy announcement. If an FRA Railroad Safety Inspector qualifies; a selection from this vacancy announcement will not be made.**

**SENIORITY RIGHTS - LEAVES OF ABSENCE - RE-EMPLOYMENT RIGHTS:** The FRA has determined that seniority rights, leaves of absence, and reemployment rights from prior railroad employment generally constitute an actual or an appearance of a conflict of interest. New employees may be required to divest themselves of such rights immediately upon hire if these rights are determined to constitute an actual or appearance of a conflict of interest. If new employees are permitted to retain such rights,

which is generally the case for Railroad Safety positions, the rights must be divested at the end of the one year probationary period which begins with the date of appointment. Divestiture is a requisite to continued employment with the Federal Railroad Administration. No waivers will be granted of the divestiture requirement. Pursuant to 5 C.F.R. Parts 2635.403 and 6001.104, all FRA employees (or spouses or minor children of FRA employees) are specifically prohibited from holding railroad stock (including shares of Berkshire Hathaway, Inc. which owns 100% of BNSF), whether held outright, in an IRA, or in a 401(k) or other plan. (Employees may hold a mutual fund which invests in railroad stocks, so long as the mutual fund does not invest more than 30% of its assets in such prohibited investments.) Employees having a prohibited financial interest must divest themselves of railroad stock within 90 days after their appointment to their positions. Neither the rule against holding railroad stock, nor the divestiture period, is in any way affected by the existence of re-employment rights which employees might have with railroad companies. Nor is there any monetary threshold for applicability of the rule against ownership of railroad stock; all dollar amounts are prohibited. If selected, you will be subject to the Standards of Ethical Conduct applicable to all executive branch employees. Selectees will be required to complete a new entrant confidential financial disclosure report (Office of Government Ethics Form 450) within 30 days of hire (except if hired between Nov. 15 and Dec. 31). Thereafter, selectees will be required to annually file a confidential financial disclosure report by Feb. 15 of each year, pursuant to instructions issued in early January.

## HOW TO APPLY:

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You must submit a complete application package (including resume, vacancy questions and supporting documents) no later than midnight Eastern Time on the closing date of the announcement.

- To begin, click the **Apply Online** button on the job announcement posting.
- Follow the directions to register, submit all required documents and complete the assessment questionnaire.
- You may review your saved application(s) at <https://my.usajobs.gov>.

**If you are having difficulty applying online, send an email to [transjobs@dot.gov](mailto:transjobs@dot.gov) or call us at (202)366-1298.**

## REQUIRED DOCUMENTS:

The following documents must be provided by the closing date:

- **RESUME - Needs to be created within USA Jobs Resume Builder.** It must show relevant experience, education and fully support the required specialized experience.
- **COMPLETED QUESTIONNAIRE.**
- **VETERANS:** In order to be considered as **preference eligible, you must submit a copy of your Certificate of Release or Discharge** From Active Duty, DD214. Your DD-214 must show the type of discharge and dates of active duty. If you are claiming compensably disabled preference eligible, you must submit a copy of your DD214; an Application for 10-point Veteran's Preference, SF15; and the proof of entitlement of this preference which is normally an official statement, dated 1991 or later, from the Department of Veterans Affairs certifying to the present existence of the service-connected disability and indicating the percentage of your disability. Without this documentation, you will not receive veteran's preference. Additional information on veterans' preference is available in the Vet's Guide at: <http://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/veterans-services/vet-guide/>
- **SPECIAL APPOINTING AUTHORITY DOCUMENTS:** If requesting concurrent consideration for: [http://www.opm.gov/hr\\_practitioners/lawsregulations/appointingauthorities/index.asp#AppointmentsLeadingNoncompetitive](http://www.opm.gov/hr_practitioners/lawsregulations/appointingauthorities/index.asp#AppointmentsLeadingNoncompetitive)  
Non-competitive (NC) appointment eligibility, (e.g. military spouse or persons with disabilities), you must provide appropriate supporting documentation such as PCS orders describing move & marriage certificate; letter from VA or DD214 describing 100% disability of spouse; letter from State Vocational Office certifying disability, etc. For more information, visit <http://www.fedshirevets.gov/hire/hrp/qaspouse/index.aspx> military spouse NC appointments or <http://www.opm.gov/disability/PeopleWithDisabilities.asp> "Persons with Disabilities NC appointments. **Documents are only required if requesting non-competitive consideration.**
- **DISPLACED EMPLOYEE PLACEMENT DOCUMENTS:** - Only required if requesting priority consideration under [https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/workforce-restructuring/employee-guide-to-career-transition/ctap\\_guideline.pdf](https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/workforce-restructuring/employee-guide-to-career-transition/ctap_guideline.pdf)  
>. You must submit ALL of the FOLLOWING: your most recent performance appraisal, the proof of eligibility letter from the Agency and your most current SF-50, displaying current series and grade. To receive priority consideration, you MUST be deemed well qualified for this vacancy (falling in the Gold Category).

**Failure to submit any of the required documents by the closing date of the vacancy will result in your removal from consideration for this position.**

**AGENCY CONTACT INFO:**

*Automated Staffing Office  
Phone: 202-366-1298  
Fax: 571-258-4052  
Email: TRANSJOBS@dot.gov*

*Agency Information:  
DOT, FEDERAL RAILROAD  
ADMINISTRATION  
Submit Application and Documents  
Online  
1200 New Jersey Ave SE / HAHR -  
50  
Washington, DC  
20590  
US  
Fax: 571-258-4052*

**WHAT TO EXPECT NEXT:**

You may check your application status by logging into your USAJOBS account. Within two weeks of the closing date, your application will be reviewed and rated. Ratings will be determined based on the documents and information received by the closing date. The most highly qualified candidates will be referred to the hiring manager for further consideration. If you are selected for an interview, the hiring manager will contact you directly. Once a hiring decision is made, we will notify all applicants of their final status.

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USAJOBS is the Federal Government's official one-stop source for federal jobs and employment information.