CAREER OPPORTUNITY

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL RAILROAD ADMINISTRATION (FRA)

ANNOUNCEMENT NUMBER: **FRA-16-109L**

POSITION TITLE: **Railroad Safety Inspector**
(Signal and Train Control), GS-2121-12
Full Performance Level: GS-12
GS-12: $71,012 to $92,316 per annum

Note: This position has special job requirements. See page 3.

POSITION LOCATION: **Federal Railroad Administration**
Office of Railroad, Safety
North Western Region, R8
Billings, MT geographical areas

Who May Apply: Current FRA Wide Status candidates that are GS-2121-12 in the Signal and Train Control discipline. This position is a voluntary reassignment.

OPENING DATE: **05/02/2016**

CLOSING DATE: **05/15/2016**

NUMBER AND TYPE: **One Full-Time Permanent Position**

Due to U.S. mail delays, it is recommended that applicants fax, use a professional delivery service (i.e., FedEx, UPS, etc.), email, or personally deliver applications to ensure timely receipt.

DOT is an Equal Opportunity Employer

All qualified applicants will be considered regardless of political affiliation, race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, age, disability, or other non-merit factors. DOT provides reasonable accommodations to applicants with disabilities. If you need a reasonable accommodation for any part of the application and hiring process, please notify us. Decisions on granting reasonable accommodation will be made on a case-by-case basis.

Why Work For Us?

The Federal Railroad Administration's mission is to enable the safe, reliable, and efficient movement of people and goods for a strong America, now and in the future.

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) promulgates and enforces rail safety regulations; consolidates government support of rail transportation activities; administers financial assistance programs; conducts research and development in support of improved railroad safety and efficiency, and national transportation policy, including improved intercity passenger service.

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 (Signal & Train Control). As an inspector you will enforce Federal safety and health regulations that are concern with signal and train control and highway crossing warning systems within an assigned territory. The objective of this position is to inspect for compliance with Federal laws, regulations, rules and standards and seeks corrections for unsafe conditions pertaining to the installation, operation, maintenance or manufacturing of railroad signal and train control and highway-rail crossing warning systems. 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.

Summary Of The Essential Job Functions: As a Railroad Safety Inspector (Signals and Train Control), you will be required to:

- Carry out periodic inspections of signals and train control systems in an assigned territory to ensure they are properly installed, operated, tested and maintained.
- Conduct investigations of accidents which result in railroad employee fatalities or possible signals and train control failures.
- Investigate complaints from railroad employees, the general public and governmental representatives regarding unsafe or hazardous signals and train control conditions.
- Provide technical advice and interpretation of regulations to railroad officials as necessary.
- Conduct safety meetings and training sessions for railroad employees on the proper signal installation, maintenance and safe operating practices for signals and train control systems.

What Are The Minimum Qualifications For This Position?

You must have at least one year of specialized experience in or directly related to the essential job functions described above. For Federal employees this experience must have been at the next lower grade level. If you want us to consider experience you obtained outside the Federal Government, it must have been at that same level of complexity. The specialized experience must demonstrate:

- Broad knowledge of the railroad industry including economic and operating considerations and equipment;
- Knowledge of the general safety and health principles and practices applicable to the railroad industry;
- Knowledge of railroad accident investigation techniques; and
- Skill in written and oral communication.
- Knowledge of the design, installation, maintenance, testing or inspection of signals and train control systems; and
- Knowledge of applicable Federal laws and regulations pertaining to railroad signaling and train control systems; and
- Knowledge of locomotive braking systems and their relationship to and interface with train control or automatic train stop systems and braking distances.

What Are The Desired Knowledge, Skills And Abilities For This Job?

See the Qualification Requirements listed above, in addition you must meet the following specialized experience:

- Applying your knowledge of the applicable Federal laws and regulations pertaining to railroad signal systems and highway-rail grade crossing warning systems.
- Analyzing data 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.
- Writing and presenting information pertaining to signal and train control systems and highway-rail grade crossing active warning systems.

Other Special Job Requirements

- If selected, you will be required to possess a valid State driver's license at all times while employed by the FRA in order to perform the duties of the position.
- If selected, you must pass a Drug Test prior to appointment unless you are presently employed in a DOT position that requires drug testing. You also will be subject to random drug testing while employed in this safety-sensitive position.
- The position requires extensive travel.
- This position is eligible for full-time telework, and the selectee must reside (or be willing to move at his/her own expense) within the geographic area of the duty location stated above. The duty location for a full-time telework 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.

How Will The Qualified Applicants Be Further Evaluated And Rated To Identify The Best Qualified?

In order to receive consideration, employees occupying the position of Railroad Safety Inspector, GS-2121-12, who are interested in voluntary reassignment may apply for the Railroad Safety Inspector, GS-2121-12 positions by applying in accordance with the application procedures

outlined in vacancy announcements. The employee who applies and meets the criteria below will be selected if he/she:

- Occupies the same Railroad Safety Inspector discipline as the vacancy;
- Has a Achieved Results or better performance appraisal;
- Has not been voluntarily reassigned in the past 12 months;
  - (a) Is a Railroad Safety Inspector/ at the GS-2121-12 level with the earliest FRA Entrance on Duty date based on continuous FRA service; or,
  - (b) Is an FRA candidate with the earliest promotion date to the position of Railroad Safety Inspector, GS-12. Ties shall be broken on the basis of the earliest Service Computation Date.

What Employee Benefits Do We Provide?

The Federal Government offers excellent benefits**,** flexible work schedules and family-friendly programs. You will receive paid annual leave and sick leave. Depending on whether the position you are applying for is permanent or time limited, you will be eligible for retirement, health insurance, life insurance and Long Term Care insurance. A brief summary of the Federal benefits for permanent employees can be found at www.usajobs.opm.gov/EI61.htm.

Before You Go Any Further, Here Are Some Other Things You Need to Know

- United States citizenship is required. (Proof of citizenship will be required to be shown upon appointment.)
- If you are a male between the ages of 18 and 26 or were born after December 31, 1959, certification is required at the time you are employed that you have registered with the Selective Service for the draft, unless Selective Service has approved a waiver for you.
- You must meet the qualification and time-in-grade requirements by the closing date of the announcement.
- The FRA has determined that railroad seniority rights, leaves of absence, and reemployment rights 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. No waivers of this requirement will be granted.
- FRA employees are prohibited from owning railroad stock, except, under certain circumstances, as part of a diversified mutual fund.
- If selected, you will be subject to the Standards of Ethical Conduct applicable to all DOT employees.

- **TRAVEL EXPENSES:** Travel and transportation expenses WILL NOT be paid.

- **GOVERNMENT TRAVEL CARD REQUIREMENT**: You must be able to retain a Government contractor-issued travel card to be used for official business as a condition of employment. If unable to obtain and/or retain a card, you may be subject to removal. Those who fail to meet this condition of employment will have our offer of employment rescinded.

How To Apply For This Position

1) This vacancy announcement will only accept the Voluntary Reassignment Application Form for consideration for voluntary reassignment to Railroad Safety Inspector, GS-12 positions under Article 09, Section E of the Memorandum of Agreement between the FRA and the American Federation of Government Employees, Local 2814 dated September 1, 2013. If you are not eligible under the above Article 09, Section E, you must submit an application through USAJOBS.

Where To Send Your Application

- You may **mail** your application to the Federal Railroad Administration, Office of Human Resources, 1200 New Jersey Avenue, S.E., Room W34-325, Washington, DC 20590.
- If faxing your application, please cover sheet with vacancy announcement number and duty location. Our fax number is 202/493-6169. We will not accept applications faxed from a Federal Government fax machine. You may email your application to frajobs@dot.gov
- ALL applications must be in our office or postmarked by the closing date of the announcement.
- Applications mailed in a Government envelope will not be accepted.

Questions?

Call the Office of Human Resources at 202-493-6110 or email at FRAJOBS@dot.gov. Please reference the announcement number so we can help you more efficiently.

Para mas informacion en espanol sobre este anuncio de vacante o cualquier otra information sobre empleo en las Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), por favor llame a Katherine Lavado-Arrington 202/493-6116. La FRA es un empleador con igualidad de oportunidad en el empleo, y que por medio de programas de accion afirmativa mantiene un ambiente multicultural. Todos los que soliciten recibiran igual consideracion, sin ninguna excepcion, por raza, color, religion, sexo, origin nacional, politica, inpedimento fisico o edad.

ALTERNATIVE FORMATS: If you need a copy of this announcement in an alternative format to accommodate a disability, please contact the Office at Human Resources the number or email above.

REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION: If you are requesting reasonable accommodation in connection with applying for this vacancy, please contact Edythe Nicholas at Edythe.Nicholas@dot.gov, on 202/493-6127.

VOLUNTARY REASSIGNMENT APPLICATION FORM

This form may only be used by FRA employees who are eligible for consideration for voluntary reassignment to Railroad Safety Inspector positions at the GS-12 grade level under Article 11, Section D of the Memorandum of Agreement between the Federal Railroad Administration and the American Federation of Government Employees, Local 2814, dated May 2000. All other applicants must file complete application forms in accordance with the instructions in the vacancy announcement.

Vacancy Announcement Number: _____

Duty Location of Vacancy: _____

Name of Applicant: _____

Address: _____

_____

Telephone Number: Home _____
Office _____
Cell _____

Current Railroad Safety Inspector Discipline: _____

Current Duty Location: _____

Summary Rating of Last Performance Appraisal: _____

Date of Last Reassignment: _____

Reassigned From: _____

Reassigned To: _____

Entrance on Duty Date with the FRA: _____

Date Assigned to the GS-12 Grade Level: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____