



Job Description

Job Title: Engineering Technician (full-time, non-exempt)

Supervisor: Director - Telecommunications and Technology

Reporting

Location: Mountain Iron, MN

Service Area: Northeast MN

About NESC: Established in Minnesota Statute 123A.21, the Northeast Service Cooperative helps build, sustain and recreate rural infrastructure and enterprise in education, technology, health care and economic development. Winner of several national awards for innovation, NESC serves and supports 108 member schools, colleges, cities, counties, state agencies, service agencies, health care providers, regional consortia and others. An independent, regional, public initiative, NESC often develops and delivers its services through collaboration between and among boards, staffs, members and colleagues as well as public and private partners.

Summary: Under general supervision, the Engineering Technician reports to the Director of Telecommunications and Technology with responsibility to deploy, monitor, maintain and repair fiber optic plant, equipment and network assets at NESC, member and partner sites across the region and the state. The Engineering Technician will be involved with outside plant construction design, fiber optic plant maintenance and repair, field staking preparations, GIS mapping and data, plant records and specifications, construction inspection and coordination and close out processing while maintaining communications with members, customers, contractors, partners and co-workers.

Job Purpose:

- Provides timely, accurate, and cost efficient engineering both in the office and in the field; and by maintaining or exceeding expectations. Responsible for fostering member engagement, promoting productive interactions among all contacts, strengthening regional service delivery and developing new service opportunities at the Northeast Service Cooperative:
- Provide services for engineering projects to include design, plans, specifications, reports, maps, environmental impacts, project budgets, scope of work, permits, contracts, schedules, estimates, surveying, data collection, construction observation, field investigation, and coordination of contractors.
- Provide engineering services with accuracy, on time and under budget.

- Coordinate preparation and field strategies for deployment and evaluation.
- Use computer assisted engineering, design, and drafting software and equipment to prepare engineering and design documents
- Attend internal and external meetings.
- Serve as onsite project representative. Reviews construction site to monitor progress and other duties per the contract documents.
- Exercise independent thinking, creativity, and initiative in the performance of these duties.
- Perform all responsibilities with attention to detail and deadlines.
- Must project a professional, positive attitude and exercise confidentiality.
- Work effectively both independently and as team member.
- Maintains safe work environment by following codes, standards, and legal regulations.
- Enhances department and organization reputation by accepting ownership for accomplishing new and different requests; exploring opportunities to add value to job accomplishments.
- Troubleshoot connectivity problems and errors and perform the necessary repair, replacement and maintenance of fiber, cables, equipment, etc.
- Perform ongoing monitoring, including on-call schedules, for all work expectations.

Perform within the parameters set by board authority including agency mission, policies, planning, budgets and executive management.

Perform other duties as requested, required and/or assigned.

Skills/Qualifications: Civil, Telecommunications and/or Information Technology Systems Engineering. Technical Understanding, Functional and Technical Skills, Independence, Attention to Detail, Verbal Communication, Documentation Skills, Audiovisual Maintenance.

- 2+ years in a combination of education and field experience in engineering field work. Experience with optical fiber preferred.
- Minimum high school diploma or certificate required, related or complementary vocational/college coursework preferred.
- Demonstrated math, spatial reasoning and fine-motor skills to perform detailed work, such as cable splicing or fiber connectivity, within quality assurance parameters.
- Demonstrated communication skills and ability to work with customers and field teams.
- Demonstrated ability to handle tools and lift equipment related to job duties.
- Experience in working in both the public and the private sector preferred.
- Experience in working with a service cooperative or similar enterprise preferred.
- Valid Minnesota drivers' license, use of personal vehicle in order to meet 24/7 contractual service obligations for the network.
- Extensive travel and remote work in the eight county service area of Northeast Minnesota and, on occasion, elsewhere (e.g. Minnesota, U-S), including overnight travel.
- All positions require an applicant who has accepted an offer to undergo a background check and may be asked to submit to a for cause drug test.

Physical requirements:

- Mobility among work stations, within campus setting and among regional members, partners and vendors
- Able to lift items designed to be safely lifted by an adult

- Able to demonstrate visual acuity, corrected or uncorrected, for precise infrastructure installation and repair (e.g. fiber optic)

Estimated length of time required for new entrant to achieve acceptable level of proficiency:

- Six (6) months