

Director, Disaster and Failure Studies Program

Building and Fire Research Laboratory
National Institute of Standards and Technology
Gaithersburg, MD 20899

The Building and Fire Research Laboratory (BFRL) at NIST is conducting a nation-wide search for a Supervisory Research Engineer to direct a national Disaster and Failure Studies Program. This is a full-time permanent position at the ZP-0801-IV/V level (equivalent to GS-14/15) with a salary range of \$89,033.00 - \$155,500.00 per year.

The Disaster and Failure Studies Program (D&FSP) Director will establish and lead a multi-disciplinary Disaster and Failure Studies Program within BFRL. The Director will provide national coordination for the conduct of field data collection studies and create and maintain a database repository related to hazard events (earthquakes, hurricanes, tornadoes, windstorms, community-scale fires in the wildland-urban interface, structural fires, storm surge, flood, tsunami) and human-made hazards (accidental, criminal, or terrorist), the performance of the built environment during hazard events, associated emergency response and evacuation procedures, and the technical, social and economic factors that affect pre-disaster mitigation activities and post-disaster response efforts. The Director will provide national coordination and promote the implementation of recommendations from disaster and failure and studies for (1) improvements to codes, standards, and practices and (2) filling gaps in current knowledge about buildings, infrastructure, emergency response, and human behavior.

The major functions to be performed on this job include:

- Establish, implement, and execute standard operating procedures and criteria for field data collection studies, that encompass: initiating studies, funding studies, training and deploying teams, operating teams, providing periodic public updates (via reports, press releases, and media briefings), accessing sites, collecting and preserving data and artifacts, and disseminating disaster and failure data.
- Develop and maintain a disaster and failure database to serve as an archival repository of hazard events, the performance of the built environment during hazard events, associated emergency response and evacuation procedures, and the technical, social and economic factors that affect pre-disaster mitigation activities and post-disaster response efforts.
- Identify, organize, and conduct multi-disciplinary training and scenario-based exercises for potential team members in the public and private sectors, including other partnering program agencies. The training and exercises will cover the full scope of potential studies including field work and standard operating procedures, including safety protocols, for the spectrum of anticipated disaster events.
- Establish strategic partnerships and standing agreements with appropriate federal agencies, state and local governments, academic and industry organizations to ensure effective national coordination in disaster and failure studies.
- Establish coordination mechanisms and protocols for technical activities and public communications with partnering program agencies in the National Construction Safety Team Act (NCST), National Earthquake Hazard Reduction Program (NEHRP), the National Windstorm Impact Reduction Program (NWIRP), and the National Fire Prevention and Control Act.

For more information on BFRL or NIST, go to <http://www.nist.gov/index.html>. **To apply for this position, visit USA Jobs:** <http://www.usajobs.opm.gov/> (Job Announcement Number: NISTBFRL-2010-0012).

The application process will remain open through May 21, 2010.

- U.S. citizenship is required.
- Department of Commerce is an Equal Opportunity Employer.