

# Job Title: CIVIL ENGINEER VI - Section Chief Freight Rail Northeastern Illinois - IPR#46136

**Agency :** Department of Transportation

**Closing Date/Time:** 01/27/2023

**Salary:** \$7,085 - \$11,020 Monthly

**Job Type:** Salaried Full Time

**County:** Cook

**Number of Vacancies:** 1

**Plan/BU:** NR916 - Protech Teamsters

**\*This position is covered by the Revolving Door Prohibition Policy.**

This position is a union position; therefore, provisions of the relevant collective bargaining agreement/labor contract apply to the filling of this position.

All applicants who want to be considered for this position **MUST** apply electronically through the [illinois.jobs2web.com](http://illinois.jobs2web.com) website. State of Illinois employees should click the link near the top left to apply through the **SuccessFactors** employee career portal.

Applications submitted via email or any paper manner (mail, fax, hand delivery) will not be considered.

## Agency Mission Statement

The Illinois Department of Transportation is seeking to hire a Section Chief Freight Rail Northeastern Illinois.

The IDOT team works diligently to provide safe, cost-effective transportation for Illinois in ways that enhance quality of life, promote economic prosperity and protect our environment. We are problem solvers and leaders, constantly searching for innovations and improvements in support of our commitment to providing the best multimodal transportation system for Illinois.

Our team fosters a culture of inclusivity. We value diversity and hold ourselves to the highest ethical standards as we work together for a common purpose. Team members frequently collaborate with colleagues and others outside the department to best meet customer needs.

The department offers extensive training and career advancement opportunities. Employees also receive a robust benefit package including:

- Monday-Friday work schedule
- Flexible work schedules are available in many program areas.
- Health, Life, Vision, and Dental Insurance
- Pension Plan
- (10) Weeks paid Maternity/Paternity Leave
- Deferred Compensation Program and other pre-tax benefit programs (Medical/Daycare)
- Employees earn (12) paid Sick Days annually.
- New Employees earn (10) paid Vacation Days their first year of service and can earn up to (25) paid Vacation Days annually.
- Employees earn (3) paid Personal Days annually.
- (13-14) paid holidays annually (based on start date)
- Tuition Reimbursement

We invite qualified applicants to apply to become part of our team. We are confident that you will take pride in serving Illinois and its residents and visitors.

## Job Responsibilities

This position is accountable for identifying, planning, developing, and negotiating cooperative public and private sector solutions to specific Illinois rail problems. These accountabilities are accomplished within the overall state rail freight program comprised of the department's Rail Freight Program and other state and federal rail programs.

This position is also accountable for directing and monitoring technical and engineering studies for the Freight Rail Northeastern Illinois Section and performing special assignments for the Bureau Chief of Freight Rail Management.

Value of Freight Rail Program: \$100 - \$300 million annually

Contracts supervised: 6 Phase I-II Professional Services contracts

Value of contracts supervised: \$1 million annually

Value of Chicago Region Environmental and Transportation Efficiency (CREATE) Program: \$4 million annually

Number of railroads participating in the CREATE Program: 10

This position reports to the Bureau Chief of Freight Rail Management. Reporting to this position are the Freight Rail Project Manager, Public Outreach Manager, and Rail Project Engineer.

This position has a major impact on the utility and effectiveness of the freight rail service provided to Illinois communities and the economic vitality of rail companies and rail dependent shippers in the northeastern portion of the state. In particular, the department's freight rail program addresses problems associated with the potential loss of service on light density rail lines as well as opportunities in economic development and industrial attraction or retention. Technical analysis, particularly from an engineering perspective, is required for construction projects for passenger and freight rail improvements, grade separations, and passenger rail flyover projects. Additionally, investigations may be conducted on other research topics relevant to rail transportation such as the application of new technologies to achieve operational efficiencies. The nature of projects and the multiple interests represented create a sensitive environment where the incumbent plays an important role in keeping affected parties involved and informed and progressing toward implementation. Problems and issues identified and solved by the incumbent have a direct impact on the movement of both passenger and freight in Illinois.

### **(Job Responsibilities continued)**

The main challenges associated with this position include monitoring and responding to changes in strategy on the part of various partners as well as changes in Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and departmental policies, procedures, or regulations; identifying and responding to funding opportunities; responding to strategic threats to the success of the program or the department's efforts; and managing and coordinating this \$3 billion program. Another challenge is ensuring all relevant information is shared amongst all partners on a continual basis while maintaining the integrity of the project. The greatest challenge of this position is ensuring the task of constructing efficient and economical rail improvements while at the same time meeting the demands for safety, mobility, and convenience of the public during construction. Frequent complications include labor strikes, inclement weather, material shortages, and plan changes.

The incumbent functions as the lead for the CREATE Program, including overseeing the responsibilities for all phase I environmental analysis, grant applications, resolution of construction issues, coordination of internal and external communication, and administration of rail projects. This position represents the department on rail program committees and working groups, manages CREATE phase I consultants and the CREATE Project Manager consultant, provides internal reports, recommends and implements strategies to the Bureau Chief of Freight Rail Management, and manages project cost and revenue projections. The incumbent requires direct and continuous liaison with the FHWA, railroads participating in CREATE, and Chicago Department of Transportation (CDOT) as well as with civic groups and elected officials. This position oversees all federal contracts and quarterly reporting for rail projects in the northeastern Illinois area for the department. In addition, the incumbent oversees the performance of proper environmental analysis for all rail and other projects. S/He monitors highway rail grade separations projects to assure all relevant federal and state guidelines are followed.

### **(Job Responsibilities continued)**

The incumbent accomplishes accountabilities through the following staff:

Freight Rail Project Manager, who is accountable for providing project management services and administration associated with the department's freight rail programs.

Public Outreach Manager, who is accountable for the planning and coordination of public outreach and public involvement responsibilities associated with the department's rail programs.

Rail Project Engineer, who is accountable for facilitating, directing, and monitoring technical and engineering studies for the department's rail programs.

This position performs independently and exercises wide latitude and freedom in reaching conclusions and developing solutions and recommendations. The incumbent develops techniques for problem solving and decisions and recommendations have a major impact on the success of the CREATE Program. S/He follows departmental guidelines and has the authority to develop guidelines and procedures for the Freight Rail Northeastern Illinois Section.

The incumbent has internal contact with staff in the Bureau of Design and Environment for environmental procedures and approvals as well as Office of Planning and Programming for federal liaison and certifications. In addition, this position has internal contact with staff in the Bureau of Design and Environment within District 1 for project coordination, Bureau of Operations for permits, Bureau of Local Roads and Streets for project coordination, Office of Business and Workforce Diversity for coordination of Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program activities, and the Office of Communications for coordination of public information meeting activities. The incumbent also coordinates internally with the Engineer of Program Development and Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Compliance Coordinator. The incumbent has external contact with CREATE partners including USDOT and city of Chicago officials as well as railroad representatives, consultants, local agencies, state and federal legislators, the press, and the public. This position requires occasional in state travel which may include overnight stays. This position also requires occasional attendance at after-hours meetings and/or conferences.

The effectiveness of this position is measured by the incumbent's ability to succeed in meeting target dates for departmental project development tasks, design, and construction as well as resolution of program risks and conflicts to expedite projects while protecting the department's interest. It is also measured by quality of work produced by the Freight Rail Northeastern Illinois Section and its consultants.

### **Principal Accountabilities**

1. Develops and implements strategies for the success of the CREATE Program and particularly for the successful funding and implementation of freight rail projects.
2. Represents the department and coordinates with partners to develop consensus on key issues.
3. Researches and responds to funding opportunities.
4. Develops and revises procedures for progressing the freight rail and CREATE programs.
5. Oversees all federal contracts and quarterly reporting for rail projects in the northeastern Illinois area for the department.
6. Oversees the performance of proper environmental analysis for all rail and other projects.
7. Monitors Highway Rail Grade Separations projects to assure all relevant federal and state guidelines are followed.
8. Oversees rail project management associated with the CREATE Program to ensure departmental, state, and federal guidelines are met.
9. Oversees the development and implementation of detailed construction work plans and budgets for rail line rehabilitation.
10. Performs duties in compliance with departmental safety rules. Performs all duties in a manner conducive to the fair and equitable treatment of all employees.
11. Performs other duties as assigned.

### **Qualifications**

#### **Position Requirements**

- Current registration as a Licensed Professional Engineer in the state of Illinois
- Eight years of experience in civil engineering
- Three years supervising staff and managing engineering functions
- Valid driver's license
- Occasional in state travel which may include overnight stays, including occasional attendance at after-hours meetings and/or conferences

#### **Position Desirables**

- Ability to manage and direct consultants
- Ability to plan and adapt as priorities and issues change
- Understanding of rail state, federal, and local funding programs and constraints
- Strong oral and written communication skills
- Experience negotiating contracts
- Ability to resolve problems and work effectively as a team player
- Knowledge of the CREATE Program
- Experience working with individuals in the railroad industry and private companies

**Work Hours:** 8:00 A.M. - 4:30 P.M. Monday-Friday

**Work Location:** 69 W Washington St Chicago, IL 60602-3134

**Office:** Office of Intermodal Project Implementation/Bureau of Freight Rail Management

**Agency Contact:** [DOT.CONTACTTHR@ILLINOIS.GOV](mailto:DOT.CONTACTTHR@ILLINOIS.GOV)

**Job Family:** Transportation

### **APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS**

Use the “Apply” button at the top right or bottom right of this posting to begin the application process.

If you are not already signed in, you will be prompted to do so.

State employees should sign in to the career portal for State of Illinois employees – a link is available at the top left of the [Illinois.jobs2web.com](https://illinois.jobs2web.com) homepage in the blue ribbon.

Non-State employees should log in on the using the “View Profile” link in the top right of the [Illinois.jobs2web.com](https://illinois.jobs2web.com) homepage in the blue ribbon. If you have never before signed in, you will be prompted to create an account.

If you have questions about how to apply, please see the following resources:

State employees: Log in to the career portal for State employees and review the [Internal Candidate Application Job Aid](#)

Non-State employees: on [Illinois.jobs2web.com](https://illinois.jobs2web.com) – click “Application Procedures” in the footer of every page of the website.

The main form of communication will be through email. Please check your “junk mail”, “spam”, or “other” folder for communication(s) regarding any submitted application(s). You may receive emails from the following addresses:

- [donotreply@SIL-P1.ns2cloud.com](mailto:donotreply@SIL-P1.ns2cloud.com)
- [systems@SIL-P1.ns2cloud.com](mailto:systems@SIL-P1.ns2cloud.com)