

**VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT  
FEDERAL MARITIME  
COMMISSION**

Announcement No.: 2008-13  
Issue Date: 07/24/08  
Closing Date: 08/22/08  
Area of Consideration: \*Nationwide

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**POSITION:** Area Representative  
GS-0301-13/14

**ORGANIZATION LOCATION:** Office of Operations

**PROMOTION POTENTIAL:** GS-14

**GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION:** New Orleans, LA

**SALARY RANGE:** GS-13: \$77,670 - \$100,976 Per Annum  
GS-14: \$91,781 - \$119,314 Per Annum  
[Locality Pay Area of New Orleans, LA]

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**\*CONSIDERATION WILL BE GIVEN TO STATUS CANDIDATES AND TO INDIVIDUALS ELIGIBLE FOR NONCOMPETITIVE APPOINTMENT, E.G., INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES ELIGIBLE FOR APPOINTMENT UNDER SCHEDULE A, CERTAIN VETERANS OF THE VIETNAM ERA AND VETERANS OF THE POST-VIETNAM ERA WHO ARE QUALIFIED FOR EMPLOYMENT UNDER THE VETERANS READJUSTMENT APPOINTMENT AUTHORITY AND DISABLED VETERANS RATED AT 30% OR MORE. VETERANS WHO ARE PREFERENCE ELIGIBLES OR WHO HAVE BEEN SEPARATED FROM THE ARMED FORCES UNDER HONORABLE CONDITIONS AFTER 3 YEARS OR MORE OF SUBSTANTIALLY CONTINUOUS ACTIVE SERVICE MAY ALSO APPLY (VETERANS EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES ACT).**

**THE INDIVIDUAL SELECTED FOR THIS POSITION WILL SERVE AS AREA REPRESENTATIVE AND WILL CARRY OUT THE AGENCY'S ENFORCEMENT AND LIAISON ACTIVITIES. THE HIGHLY MOBILE NATURE OF THE DUTIES WILL REQUIRE THE USE OF STATE OF THE ART TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY AND EQUIPMENT. THIS WILL ENABLE THE INCUMBENT TO RAPIDLY ACCESS A WIDE VARIETY OF INFORMATION AND DATA BASES AND MAINTAIN CONSTANT CONTACT WITH COMMISSION'S HEADQUARTERS, THE MARITIME INDUSTRY, THE GENERAL PUBLIC, AND OTHER GOVERNMENT ENTITIES. THE INCUMBENT WILL RESPOND DIRECTLY TO INDUSTRY CONCERNS AND INVESTIGATIVE DEMANDS AND WILL BE SUPPORTED IN THESE ACTIVITIES BY HEADQUARTERS STAFF. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES WILL BE PERFORMED UTILIZING HOME-BASED OR TELECOMMUTING WORKSITES OR OTHER APPROPRIATE FACILITIES.**

**APPLICANTS WILL BE EVALUATED ON THE BASIS OF EXPERIENCE AND THE QUALITY RANKING FACTORS DESCRIBED BELOW. THEREFORE, IT IS CRITICAL THAT ALL INFORMATION CONCERNING EXPERIENCE PERTINENT TO THESE FACTORS BE ADDRESSED IN THE APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED FOR CONSIDERATION FOR THIS VACANCY. APPLICANTS MUST SHOW CLEARLY THE EXTENT TO WHICH HE/SHE POSSESSES THE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES DESCRIBED BELOW.**

The Federal Maritime Commission (FMC) is an independent regulatory agency tasked with the regulation of oceanborne transportation in the foreign commerce of the U.S., whose mission is to (1) develop and administer policies and regulations that foster a fair, efficient, and secure maritime transportation system; (2) protect U.S. maritime commerce from unfair foreign trade practices, and market-distorting activities; (3) facilitate compliance with U.S. shipping statutes through oversight and outreach; and (4) assist in resolving disputes. More information about the Commission and its programs can be found at: <http://www.fmc.gov>.

**DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:** The incumbent serves as an official Area Representative of the Federal Maritime Commission (FMC) for the assigned area. Assumes responsibility for the conduct and development of investigations and surveillance activities. Participates with the Director of the Office of Operations and other supervisory staff in the formulation and implementation of investigative and compliance programs, priorities and objectives. As Area Representative of the FMC in the assigned area, provides information, advice and counsel to the various segments of the regulated industry, shipping public and others having an interest and concern in the Commission's work and functions. Performs other related duties as assigned.

**DUTY STATION:** New Orleans, LA

**QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:** All applicants are required to meet the qualification requirements listed in the OPM Operating Manual for Qualification Standards for General Schedule Positions (which is available for review in any Federal Personnel Office or online at [www.opm.gov](http://www.opm.gov)). Those requirements are summarized below:

**GS-13:** Applicants must possess 52 weeks of specialized experience equivalent to the GS-12 level. **GS-14:** Applicants must possess 52 weeks of specialized experience equivalent to the GS-13 level. **Specialized experience** is experience that equipped the applicant with the particular knowledge, skills, and abilities to perform successfully the duties of the position, and that is typically in or related to the work of the position to be filled. To be creditable, specialized experience must have been equivalent to at least the next lower grade level in the normal line of progression for the occupation.

**MANDATORY SELECTIVE FACTOR:** This selective factor is essential for satisfactory performance on the job and represents a minimum requirement in addition to the qualification requirements above. All applicants must evidence, in a supplemental narrative statement, possession of the following selective factor in order to be rated eligible by reason of their education or work experience.

- . In-depth knowledge of, and demonstrated experience in, transportation as it relates to the functions and activities of a Federal regulatory agency (e.g., U.S., shipping laws, maritime operations, practices and processes; import/export procedures of U.S. international trade; and foreign and domestic entities participating in transportation).

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**QUALITY RANKING FACTORS-** Applicants who meet the qualification requirements described above will be further evaluated by determining the extent to which their education, work experience, or related training, awards, and performance appraisals indicate they possess or have the potential to acquire the following knowledge, skills, and abilities. **These quality ranking factors must be addressed in order to be given appropriate consideration under this announcement.**

1. Knowledge of the theories, principles, practices and techniques of civil law enforcement investigations.
2. Ability to meet and deal with representatives of the shipping industry; Federal, State or local officials; and others interested in maritime issues and topics.
3. Knowledge of and the ability to use state-of-the-art telecommunications and computer technology equipment, in order to access worldwide information and databases for the completion of assignments.
4. Skill in oral and written communications.

**HOW TO APPLY: All applicants should furnish the following (FAILURE TO SUBMIT ALL REQUIRED FORMS OR INFORMATION MAY RESULT IN LOSS OF CONSIDERATION FOR THE POSITION):**

1. A current, **complete** application, e.g., an Optional Form 612 (Optional Application for Federal Employment), a resume, or any other application in written format (**required**).

The following information **must** be contained in your application:

- a. announcement number, title, and grade(s) - please indicate lowest grade acceptable
  - b. full name, mailing address, day and evening phone numbers
  - c. social security number
  - d. country of citizenship
  - e. Forms DD-214 and/or SF-15 as appropriate (proof of veterans' preference)
  - f. highest Federal civilian grade held (give job series and dates held)
  - g. education level:
    - (1) High school (name, city, state, and date of diploma or GED)
    - (2) Colleges or Universities (name, city, state, major field of study, and type and year of any degree received - if no degree(s), show total credits earned and indicate whether semester or quarter hours)
  - h. work experience (give the job title, duties, employer's name and address, supervisor's name and phone number, starting and ending dates, hours per week, salary, and indicate if we may contact your current supervisor)
  - i. job-related training courses (title and year)
  - j. job-related skills (e.g., other language skills, computer software/hardware skills)
  - k. job-related honors, awards, and special accomplishments (e.g., publications, memberships in professional or honor societies, public speaking, etc.);
2. A copy of the most recent performance appraisal and performance plan (elements and standards for achievement, if not indicated clearly on the annual performance appraisal) (**required of all current Federal employees**);

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3. A copy of the last or latest SF-50, "Notification of Personnel Action" (**required of all current Federal employees and of candidates applying on the basis of their reinstatement eligibility**);
4. **Supplemental narrative statements addressing the Mandatory Selective Factor and the Quality Ranking Factors (required).**

**OTHER INFORMATION:**

**Applications must be received or postmarked\* no later than the closing date of the announcement and should be sent to the Office of Human Resources, Room 924, Federal Maritime Commission, 800 North Capitol Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20573, Attn: Wanda Fisher, Human Resources Specialist. Also, the following methods of receipt apply:**

1. Applications can be e-mailed to: [humanresources@fmc.gov](mailto:humanresources@fmc.gov). All e-mailed applications **must** be sent as an attachment in MS Word or WordPerfect format. Applications included in the body of the e-mail or in other formats will **NOT** be considered. Applications submitted electronically should be received in our agency e-mail system by the closing date of the announcement. Additional application materials may be faxed to the agency at the number shown below **by the closing date** of the announcement.
2. Applications can be faxed to the FMC at: **202-523-7842**.
3. \*Applications can be sent to the FMC via a private delivery service such as UPS, FedEx, etc.

**\*PLEASE NOTE: If you choose to use the USPS or private delivery service to mail your application, it must be received in our office no later than one week following the closing date in order to be considered. No exceptions will be made to this requirement.**

For further information regarding this announcement contact Wanda Fisher on (202) 523-5773 or by e-mail at [humanresources@fmc.gov](mailto:humanresources@fmc.gov). **NOTE:** The filing of job applications is a personal matter, not official government business. Such personal mail is, therefore, subject to payment of postage by the employee. Applications received in official postage-paid or government franked envelopes will not be acknowledged or considered. Applications submitted become the property of the Federal Maritime Commission and will not be returned.

All status applicants must meet time-in-grade requirements.

New appointments to the Federal Government are made at the minimum rate of the grade, e.g., step 1, except in certain rare instances as determined by OPM.

Relocation expenses may be authorized.

Fluency in the Spanish language is desirable.

The incumbent selected for this position may be required to relocate to other Federal Maritime Commission geographic locations at the discretion of the agency. Incumbent will be required to travel

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extensively and will be required to conduct business in areas not easily accessible to public transportation, therefore all applicants must possess or be able to obtain a valid motor vehicle operator's permit.

As a condition of employment, new appointees to the Federal service will be subject to a background investigation and are required to complete a 1-year probationary period.

If selected, applicants must complete an OF-306, "Declaration for Federal Employment." Failure to comply may be grounds for withdrawal of an offer of employment. Selectees will be required to provide documentation that establishes his/her identity and employment eligibility as required by the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986 (Public Law 99-103, dated November 6, 1986).

Male selectees born after December 31, 1959 must complete a Pre-Appointment Certification Statement for Selective Service Registration. Failure to comply may be grounds for withdrawal of an offer of employment or termination after employment.

Interagency Career Transition Assistance Plan (ICTAP)/Career Transition Assistance Plan (CTAP) eligibles must be well-qualified for the position in order to receive special selection priority. To be considered well-qualified, candidates must meet all eligibility and qualifications requirements and must meet the fully successful level using the established rating criteria. Documentary evidence, e.g., Reduction-in-Force (RIF) Notice, Certification of Expected Separation, SF-50 documenting separation by RIF, or a letter from OPM or your agency documenting your priority consideration status **MUST** accompany your application in order to receive special selection priority.

Displaced District of Columbia Government, Department of Corrections employees will be eligible for priority consideration and competitive appointment (Public Law 105-274). Eligible candidates are not restricted by geographic location or grade level in jobs for which they apply. Documentary evidence is the same as stated above.

**This agency provides reasonable accommodations to applicants with disabilities. If you need a reasonable accommodation for any part of the application and/or hiring process, please contact the Office of Human Resources on (202) 523-5773. The decision on granting reasonable accommodation will be made on a case-by-case-basis.**

**The United States Government does not discriminate in employment on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, political affiliation, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, age, membership in an employee organization, or other non-merit factor.**

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