

Career Opportunities in the US Federal Government

Wendy Martinez

Director

Mathematical Statistics Research Center
Office of Survey Methods Research

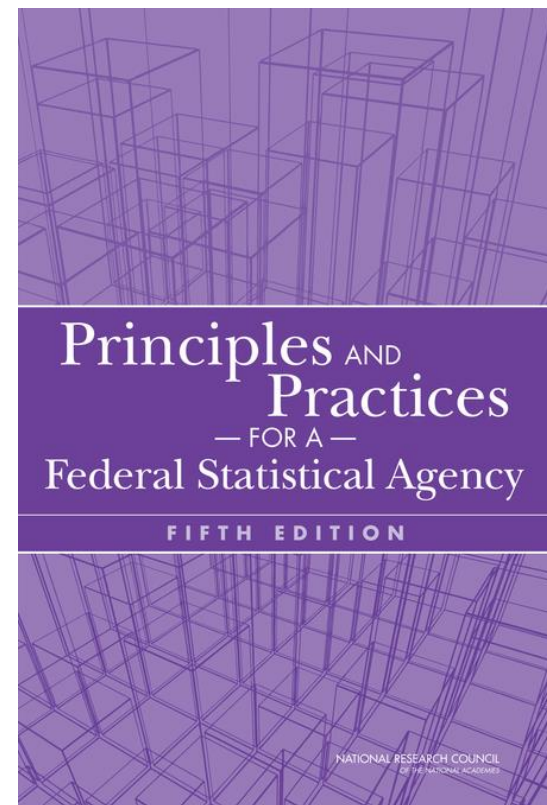
NISS Government Career Fair

January 2020

Federal Statistical Agencies

■ Principal Statistical Agencies

1. Bureau of Economic Analysis
2. Bureau of Justice Statistics
3. Bureau of Labor Statistics
4. Bureau of Transportation Statistics
5. Census Bureau
6. Economic Research Service
7. Energy Information Administration
8. National Agricultural Statistics Service
9. National Center for Education Statistics
10. National Center for Health Statistics
11. National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics
12. Office of Research Evaluation and Statistics (SSA)
13. Statistics of Income (IRS)



Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS)

Mission

- Our Mission is to collect, analyze, and disseminate essential economic information to support public and private decision-making.
- As an independent statistical agency, we serve our diverse user communities by providing products and services that are objective, timely, accurate, and relevant.



Bureau of Labor Statistics

Statistical arm of the U.S. Department of Labor

Provides key economic data

- Employment and unemployment
- Consumer and producer prices
- Pay and benefits
- Productivity
- Workplace safety and health

Typical Statistical Work

- There really is no such thing.
- Work will vary by
 - ▶ Agency
 - ▶ The needs of your group
 - ▶ The skills of others on your team
 - ▶ What you like to do
 - ▶ Variety you want
 - ▶ New problems you want to tackle
- Statisticians & data scientists can work in different applications/areas

Careers for Statisticians in Federal Government

- Social scientist, psychologist, statistician
- Mathematical statistician
- Data scientist
- Operations research analyst
- Economist
- Others – Engineer, IT, computing, program manager
- Entry level to advanced career jobs are available
- Many (if not most) do not require advanced degrees



Qualifications

<https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/classification-qualifications/general-schedule-qualification-standards/#url=List-by-Occupational-Series>

General Schedule Qualification Standards

OPM.gov Main > Policy > Classification & Qualifications > General Schedule Qualification Standards

IN THIS SECTION

- Assessment & Selection
- Classification & Qualifications
 - Classifying General Schedule Positions
 - Classifying Federal Wage System Positions
 - General Schedule Qualification Policies
 - General Schedule Qualification Standards
 - Federal Wage System Qualifications
- Appeals Decisions
- Reference Materials
- Data, Analysis & Documentation
- Disability Employment
- Diversity & Inclusion
- Employee Relations
- Hiring Authorities
- Human Capital Management
- Labor-Management Relations
- Oversight Activities
- Pandemic Information
- Pay & Leave
- Performance Management
- Senior Executive Service

Classification & Qualifications

GENERAL SCHEDULE QUALIFICATION STANDARDS

Overview Drafts Recent Issuances Group Standards List by Occupational Series List by Title Specialty Areas

Standards by Occupational Series

- 0000 - 0099 - Miscellaneous Occupations
- 0100 - 0199 - Social Science, Psychology, and Welfare
- 0200 - 0299 - Human Resources Management
- 0300 - 0399 - General Administrative, Clerical, and Office Services
- 0400 - 0499 - Biological Sciences
- 0500 - 0599 - Accounting and Budget
- 0600 - 0699 - Medical, Hospital, Dental, and Public Health
- 0700 - 0799 - Veterinary Medical Science
- 0800 - 0899 - Engineering and Architecture
- 0900 - 0999 - Legal and Kindred
- 1000 - 1099 - Information and Arts
- 1100 - 1199 - Business and Industry
- 1200 - 1299 - Copyright, Patent, and Trade-Mark
- 1300 - 1399 - Physical Sciences
- 1400 - 1499 - Library and Archives
- 1500 - 1599 - Mathematics and Statistics
- 1600 - 1699 - Equipment, Facilities, and Service
- 1700 - 1799 - Education
- 1800 - 1899 - Inspection, Investigation, Enforcement, and Compliance
- 1900 - 1999 - Quality Assurance, Inspection and Grading
- 2000 - 2099 - Supply
- 2100 - 2199 - Transportation
- 2200 - 2299 - Information Technology Management

Occupational Series -- 0000 - 0099 - Miscellaneous Occupations

FEEDBACK

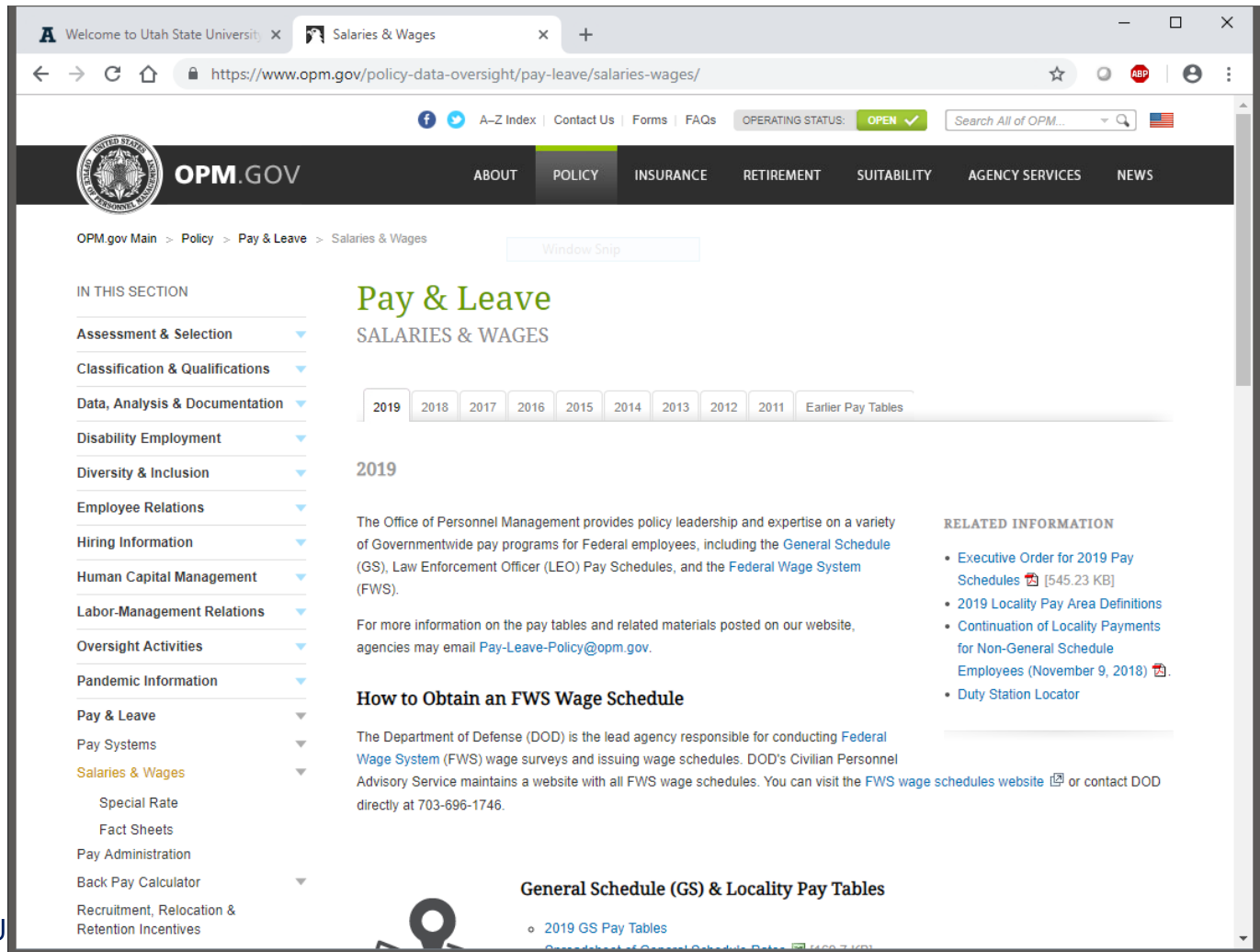


Qualifications

- Mathematical Statistician - 1529
 - ▶ Degree: that included 24 semester hours of mathematics and statistics, of which at least 12 semester hours were in mathematics and 6 semester hours were in statistics.
- <http://www.opm.gov/qualifications/standards/iors/g1500/1529.asp>

Salary – OPM Tables

<https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/pay-leave/salaries-wages/>



The screenshot shows the OPM.GOV website's "Salaries & Wages" page. The browser address bar displays the URL: <https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/pay-leave/salaries-wages/>. The page features a navigation menu with links to ABOUT, POLICY, INSURANCE, RETIREMENT, SUITABILITY, AGENCY SERVICES, and NEWS. The main content area is titled "Pay & Leave SALARIES & WAGES" and includes a "Window Snip" button. A sidebar on the left lists various topics under "IN THIS SECTION", with "Salaries & Wages" highlighted. The main content area displays a year selector (2019, 2018, 2017, 2016, 2015, 2014, 2013, 2012, 2011, Earlier Pay Tables) and a "2019" section. The 2019 section contains text about the Office of Personnel Management's policy leadership, a link to the "General Schedule (GS)", and a link to the "Federal Wage System (FWS)". Below this is a "How to Obtain an FWS Wage Schedule" section, which states that the Department of Defense (DOD) is the lead agency for conducting FWS wage surveys and issuing wage schedules. A "RELATED INFORMATION" section on the right lists links to the "Executive Order for 2019 Pay Schedules", "2019 Locality Pay Area Definitions", "Continuation of Locality Payments for Non-General Schedule Employees (November 9, 2018)", and "Duty Station Locator". At the bottom, there is a "General Schedule (GS) & Locality Pay Tables" section with a link to "2019 GS Pay Tables".

OPM.GOV

ABOUT POLICY INSURANCE RETIREMENT SUITABILITY AGENCY SERVICES NEWS

OPM.gov Main > Policy > Pay & Leave > Salaries & Wages

Window Snip

IN THIS SECTION

- Assessment & Selection
- Classification & Qualifications
- Data, Analysis & Documentation
- Disability Employment
- Diversity & Inclusion
- Employee Relations
- Hiring Information
- Human Capital Management
- Labor-Management Relations
- Oversight Activities
- Pandemic Information
- Pay & Leave
- Pay Systems
- Salaries & Wages
- Special Rate
- Fact Sheets
- Pay Administration
- Back Pay Calculator
- Recruitment, Relocation & Retention Incentives

2019 2018 2017 2016 2015 2014 2013 2012 2011 Earlier Pay Tables

2019

The Office of Personnel Management provides policy leadership and expertise on a variety of Governmentwide pay programs for Federal employees, including the [General Schedule \(GS\)](#), [Law Enforcement Officer \(LEO\) Pay Schedules](#), and the [Federal Wage System \(FWS\)](#).

For more information on the pay tables and related materials posted on our website, agencies may email Pay-Leave-Policy@opm.gov.

How to Obtain an FWS Wage Schedule

The Department of Defense (DOD) is the lead agency responsible for conducting [Federal Wage System \(FWS\)](#) wage surveys and issuing wage schedules. DOD's Civilian Personnel Advisory Service maintains a website with all FWS wage schedules. You can visit the [FWS wage schedules website](#) or contact DOD directly at 703-696-1746.

General Schedule (GS) & Locality Pay Tables

- 2019 GS Pay Tables

RELATED INFORMATION

- [Executive Order for 2019 Pay Schedules](#) [545.23 KB]
- [2019 Locality Pay Area Definitions](#)
- [Continuation of Locality Payments for Non-General Schedule Employees \(November 9, 2018\)](#)
- [Duty Station Locator](#)

Benefits/Work-Life Balance

- Some depend on the agency and the area
 - ▶ Holidays and Leave
 - ▶ Flexible Work Schedules
 - ▶ Teleworking
 - ▶ Transit Subsidy – DC Area
 - ▶ Educational Opportunities
 - ▶ Thrift Savings Plan and Pension

USA Jobs

<https://www.usajobs.gov/>

The screenshot shows the USAJOBS website homepage. At the top, the browser address bar displays "https://www.usajobs.gov". The USAJOBS logo is on the left, and a yellow banner on the right says "A new way to sign in. Create a login.gov account to sign into USAJOBS. Learn more" with a "Sign In" button. Below the banner is a search bar with "Keywords" (Job title, dept., agency, series, or occupation) and "Location" (City, state, zip, or country) fields, and a "Search" button. The main banner features a puzzle piece with the American flag and the text "SHAPE AMERICA'S FUTURE Find your fit in the Federal Government" with a "Create Profile" button. Below the banner are three tabs: "Create a USAJOBS Profile", "Federal Application Process", and "Explore Opportunities". The "Create a USAJOBS Profile" section is active, showing four steps: "Save your favorite jobs and searches" (star icon), "Upload your resumes and documents" (folder icon), "Make your resume searchable" (building icon), and "Apply for jobs in the Federal Government" (checkmark icon).

USAJOBS - The Federal Government X

https://www.usajobs.gov

An official website of the United States government

USAJOBS

A new way to sign in. Create a [login.gov account](#) to sign into USAJOBS. [Learn more](#) Sign In Help Search

Keywords Location

Job title, dept., agency, series, or occupation City, state, zip, or country Search

SHAPE AMERICA'S FUTURE

Find your fit in the Federal Government

Create Profile

Create a USAJOBS Profile Federal Application Process Explore Opportunities

Create a USAJOBS Profile

Save your favorite jobs and searches Upload your resumes and documents Make your resume searchable Apply for jobs in the Federal Government

Explore Opportunities

USAJOBS - The Federal Government

Secure | <https://www.usajobs.gov/?c=opportunities>

Create a USAJOBS Profile Federal Application Process **Explore Opportunities**

Explore the most urgent hiring needs

The government is looking to fill positions that are in high demand. Find your opportunity to shape America's future.

- Mathematics**
 - Mathematical Statistics
 - Statistics
 - Computer Science
- Engineering**
 - Civil
 - Mechanical
- Human Resources**
 - Human Resources Management
- Business, Industry, and Programs**
 - Contracting
- Social Science**
 - Economist
- Medical, Dental, and Public Health**
 - Nurse
- Science**
 - General Natural Resources Management And Biological Sciences
 - General Physical Science
 - Chemistry
- Technology**
 - Information Technology Management

Explore Opportunities

Explore Hiring Paths

The Federal Government offers unique hiring paths to help hire individuals that represent our diverse society. Learn more about each hiring path and your eligibility.



Open to the Public

U.S. citizens, nationals or those who owe allegiance to the U.S.



Veterans



National Guard & Reserves

Current or prospective members



Senior Executives



Family of overseas employees



Peace Corps & AmeriCorps VISTA



Federal Employees

Current or former, includes the competitive and excepted services



Military Spouses



Students & recent graduates



Individuals with a disability



Native Americans

American Indian or Alaskan Native



Special authorities

www.USAJobs.gov

Public vs. Status

■ Public

- ▶ **ALL** U.S. citizens

■ Status

- ▶ Current or former Federal employee
- ▶ Individuals w/special non-competitive appointment eligibility

Open Announcement

Mathematical Statistician

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

[Food and Drug Administration](#)

Overview

Locations

Duties

Requirements

Required Documents

Benefits

How to apply

Overview

[? Help](#)

Open & closing dates

🕒 11/18/2019 to 05/25/2020

Pay scale & grade

GS 11 - 13

Appointment type

Permanent

Service

Competitive

Salary

\$69,581 to \$128,920 per year

Work schedule

Full-Time

This job is open to

[? Help](#)



[The public](#)

U.S. citizens, nationals or those who owe allegiance to the U.S.

Clarification from the agency

This position is being advertised under a OPM government-wide Direct Hire issued on October 11, 2018 for Scientific, Technical, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) and cyber-security related positions nationwide. All U.S. Citizens may apply.

Application Process

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL <https://www.usajobs.gov/?c=fed-app-process>. The browser's address bar and the page's navigation bar are visible. The navigation bar has three links: "Create a USAJOBS Profile", "Federal Application Process", and "Explore Opportunities". The "Federal Application Process" link is highlighted with a red oval. Below the navigation bar, the heading "Learn about the Federal Application Process" is displayed. A paragraph follows: "Below is an overview of the federal hiring process. This process is in place to make sure all applicants receive fair and equal opportunity." The main content area is titled "USAJOBS" and lists three steps in a numbered sequence: 1. Create a USAJOBS Profile, 2. Search for Jobs, and 3. Review Job Announcement. Step 1 is the active step, indicated by a blue circle and a vertical line. To the right of step 1, there is a small graphic of a USAJOBS profile card and a paragraph of text: "First, you need to create an account and complete your profile to apply to any job on USAJOBS. With a USAJOBS account and profile you can save jobs, save and automate job searches, and manage everything you need to complete your application, including resumes and required documents." The Windows taskbar is visible at the bottom of the screen, showing the time as 7:22 AM on 3/22/2017.

USAJOBS - The Federal Government

Secure | <https://www.usajobs.gov/?c=fed-app-process>

Create a USAJOBS Profile Federal Application Process Explore Opportunities

Learn about the Federal Application Process

Below is an overview of the federal hiring process. This process is in place to make sure all applicants receive fair and equal opportunity.

USAJOBS

- 1 Create a USAJOBS Profile
- 2 Search for Jobs
- 3 Review Job Announcement

First, you need to create an account and complete your profile to apply to any job on USAJOBS.

With a USAJOBS account and profile you can save jobs, save and automate job searches, and manage everything you need to complete your application, including resumes and required documents.

USA Jobs Tips

- Create an account
- Create saved searches
- Can get alerts based on searches
 - ▶ Don't rely on searches
 - ▶ Run searches weekly yourself
- Save resumes to use later in applications

Resume Tips



- Don't Limit Resume Length
- List all relevant experiences, including volunteer activities, student groups, etc.
- Be specific with dates and hours worked
- Tailor resume to fit the job for which you are applying
- HR specialist determines your eligibility by looking at your resume and transcripts

Announcement Tips

- Be persistent – keep looking!
- Review job announcements – people do not search existing resumes
- Be open to job titles, agencies, and locations
- Some positions have multiple announcements – apply to all.
- Pay Special Attention



QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED:

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS:

Contact Information

Wendy Martinez

Office of Survey Methodology Research

www.bls.gov/osmr

202-691-7400

martinez.wendy@bls.gov