



Civil Engineering Technician

The Company

Williams Engineering, Inc. (WEI) is a civil engineering consulting company that has been in business since 1992, starting in the Grand Junction, Colorado area. Target market has been the public sector (cities, counties, and state agencies). In 2004, WEI started an office in eastern Idaho at Rexburg (population 23,000 with 4 year private university), which is 25 miles from Idaho Falls (population 53,000), 40 miles from the Grand Teton Mountains and nearby Yellowstone National Park, and near the Snake and Teton Rivers. The Rexburg office also performs development and private sector engineering.

The Position

The Rexburg office needs civil engineering technicians for each of the following categories: Hydrology and Hydraulics; Water and Wastewater; or Land Development.

Minimum Technical Qualifications

- 2 years recent civil engineering technician experience or completion of at least 2 years of civil or mechanical engineering college education.
- Preferably familiarity with construction drawing details and plans and profiles for at least 3 of the following: water, sanitary sewer, storm drains, and irrigation pipelines, and roads.
- A large share of WEI's workload is water resources studies, masterplans, and hydraulic modeling, including for culinary and irrigation water, fire flow systems, sewer systems, storm drains and channels, flood control, and floodplain modeling, and therefore ability to prepare computer models with direction for such work is required.
- Familiarity and ability to work in AutoCAD and aerial photography imaging and GIS software is preferred because building computer models for studies often require working inside of or in association with these programs; and
- Experience with databases and Excel is preferred.

Communication and Interpersonal Skills

- Applicant must be a good speller and have excellent written grammatical ability, and preferably excellent technical writing skills;
- Applicant shall have good telephone skills to be able to communicate in a professional manner with vendors, other consultants, and clients;
- Applicant must have good interpersonal skills required to be a team player – we strive for a team approach in establishing and evaluating project procedures;
- Applicant shall be able to fit into a small organization that, after 14 years in business, is looking to grow, and to be helpful and supportive through the transition;
- Applicant shall be a motivated learner and one who is a self-starter. Applicant should be capable of finding methods, procedures, and solutions for increasing



accuracy, speed, and efficiency of work. We want someone who builds on what they know, rather than just coasts along.

- Applicant must be attentive to details and have an attitude and approach of thoroughness. Productivity while maintaining high quality is our goal.

Cost of Living Information

The cost of living in Eastern Idaho is fairly low. Food and gas are typical of less densely populated areas, being slightly higher than in metropolitan areas. However, this is more than made up in the low cost of land and consequent lower housing costs. Suburban acreage is typically in the \$4,000 to \$6,000 per acre range, with small 1 and 2 acre lots typically in the \$25,000 to \$40,000 range. Nice but older homes come cheaply, ranging from \$50 to \$70 per square foot. An example of housing costs is the home the owner of WEI purchased at market value in May 2004. Located in a nice neighborhood with doctors, surgeons, college professors, and business owners, lots are 1.3 acre to 5 acres, all nice homes with attractive landscaping. The owner's home was built in 2000, has 3818 livable square feet, an oversized three car garage with shop, landscaping in with automatic sprinkler system, paved driveway, and its own water well. Constructed with Styrofoam block and concrete, costs for the preceding 15-month period with occupation by a family of six and a mother-in-law setup (the house has separate kitchen, dining, living, and bedroom) was \$135 per month for natural gas, electricity, and water (electricity costs for the well). The purchase price was \$219,000, or \$57.36 per square foot. Building new will cost approximately \$95 to \$100 per square foot.

Growth in the area is strong, at least 5% in most areas in the region, and 20% each of the last 5 years in Ammon, located 30 miles south. With the change from a 2 year college to 4 year, growth in Rexburg has been estimated at 12-1/2% in each of the last several years, which should level out, but land prices have raised and land and housing in the area appears to be a good investment.

Compensation and Benefits

WEI uses a professional employee organization (PEO) to handle all payroll, benefits, and labor issues. This allows those aspects of business to be handled legally, professionally, and expeditiously. It also allows WEI to provide a full range of benefits normally found only with larger companies.