

# Career Opportunities in the US Federal Government

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# My Background

- BS – Mathematics and Physics – Cameron Univ
- MS – Aerospace Engineering – GWU
- PhD – Computational Sciences & Informatics – GMU
- Work experience
  - ▶ A navy research lab – engineering R&D
  - ▶ Now working at Bureau of Labor Statistics
- BLS produces key economic data
  - ▶ Monthly employment number
  - ▶ Consumer price index



# Positions 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/>

The screenshot shows the OPM.gov website in Internet Explorer. The browser address bar displays the URL: <https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/classification-qualifications/g>. The page features the OPM.GOV logo and a navigation menu with links for ABOUT, POLICY, INSURANCE, RETIREMENT, SUITABILITY, AGENCY SERVICES, and NEWS. A search bar is located in the top right corner.

The main content area is titled "Classification & Qualifications" and "GENERAL SCHEDULE QUALIFICATION STANDARDS". Below the title, there are several tabs: Overview (selected), Drafts, Recent Issuances, Group Standards, List by Occupational Series, List by Title, and Specialty Areas.

The "Overview" section contains the following text:

This section contains the group coverage qualification standards, associated individual occupational requirements (IOR), and individual qualification standards covering white collar occupations in the Federal competitive service. These standards describe the minimum qualification requirements (for example, educational, medical, age, experience, etc.) for each occupational series. You may search for information about specific qualification requirements using either the [Index by Series Number](#) or [Index by Series Title](#).

The standards are written broadly for Governmentwide application and are not intended to provide detailed information about specific qualification requirements for individual positions at a particular agency. Such information (i.e., a description of the specialized experience requirements for a particular position) should be included in the vacancy announcements issued by the agency. Information about the work performed in a General Schedule occupational series is contained in the [Handbook of Occupational Groups & Families](#) and the [Introduction to the Position Classification Standards](#), and is not repeated on this site.

Many occupations or positions that are covered by a group coverage qualification standard also have Individual Occupation Requirements (IOR). Some series are covered by a separate stand-alone individual qualification standard.

Each of the following Group Coverage Qualification Standards includes a list of covered occupations:

- [Professional and Scientific Positions](#);
- [Administrative and Management Positions](#);
- [Technical and Medical Support Positions](#);
- [Clerical and Administrative Support Positions](#); and
- [Competitive Service Student Trainee Positions](#).

An occupational series has not been assigned to the following:

- [Supervisory Guide](#);
- [Policy Analysis and Administrative Analysis Positions](#).



# 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/positions/gs1500/1529.asp>

# USA Jobs

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

The screenshot shows the USAJOBS website homepage. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the USAJOBS logo, a sign-in prompt for login.gov accounts, and links for Sign In, Help, and Search. Below the navigation bar is a search section with two input fields: 'Keywords' (with placeholder text 'Job title, dept., agency, series, or occupation') and 'Location' (with placeholder text 'City, state, zip, or country'), followed by a blue 'Search' button. The main content area features a large graphic of two puzzle pieces, one with the American flag pattern and one light blue. To the right of the puzzle pieces, the text reads 'SHAPE AMERICA'S FUTURE' and 'Find your fit in the Federal Government', with a red 'Create Profile' button below. A horizontal navigation bar below this section contains three items: 'Create a USAJOBS Profile', 'Federal Application Process', and 'Explore Opportunities'. The bottom section is titled 'Create a USAJOBS Profile' and contains four steps, each with an icon and a description: 1. A yellow star icon for 'Save your favorite jobs and searches'; 2. A blue folder icon for 'Upload your resumes and documents'; 3. A blue classical building icon for 'Make your resume searchable'; 4. A green checkmark icon for 'Apply for jobs in the Federal Government'.

# www.USAJobs.gov

- Public – U.S. citizens
- Special opportunities
  - ▶ Pathways program
  - ▶ Internships
  - ▶ Recent graduates



# Resume Tips



- Do not 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

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