

Facilities Engineering Technician

The Facilities Program involves the management, installation, maintenance and repair of Southern Region buildings and grounds; equipment towers, domes and racks; emergency power generators; heating, ventilating and air conditioning systems; utility, power and other cable systems; and other structures as necessary to support NWS personnel, equipment and mission.

Often the demarcation between facilities and other programs, such as electronics maintenance, is not easily defined. In general, facilities technicians perform those duties necessary to install or repair structures, cable and equipment. Cabling is terminated in distribution panels by facility technicians for connection to electronic systems by electronic technicians.

However, the Regional Director or Chief of Operational Infrastructure Services (OIS) may assign responsibility for installation and maintenance of certain categories of facilities equipment as a matter of expediency to meet operational requirements.

The need for a well-coordinated and supported facilities management and maintenance program is very important. The NWS has a high percentage of Government-owned versus leased buildings and a wide variety of complex and critical systems with associated supporting facilities such as WSR-88D radars and Automated Surface Observing Systems (ASOS), among others.

The nature of computer-based equipment and the mission of the NWS require that electrical, heating, ventilating, and air conditioning systems, along with the facilities infrastructure, be maintained to very high standards.