

Senior Broadcast Transmission Engineer



Reports To
Chief Operating Officer

Job Overview

The Senior Broadcast Transmission Engineer is responsible for the reliable operation, maintenance, and strategic development of the station's broadcast engineering systems and information technology infrastructure. This role oversees on-air transmission, studio equipment, digital streaming, network systems, and staff computing needs, ensuring the station meets FCC regulatory requirements as the designated Chief Operator while supporting the organization's mission through dependable, forward-looking technology. Directly supervises IT staff, sound engineers, and board operators, including performance management, and scheduling.

Responsibilities and Duties

Broadcast Engineering

- Maintain and troubleshoot transmitters, antennas, studio-transmitter links (STLs), audio consoles, and remote broadcast equipment
- Ensure continuous, high-quality on-air signal and streaming operations; respond promptly to outages, including after hours
- Oversee compliance with FCC rules, including EAS (Emergency Alert System), tower lighting, and licensing requirements
- Manage transmitter site visits, generator maintenance, and tower/facility inspections
- Plan and execute equipment upgrades, capital projects, and studio build-outs
- Maintain station technical files, records, logs, licenses, permits, authorizations and other required documentation including timely filing of license renewal and FCC Public File documents in conjunction with station management.

Information Technology

- Oversee network infrastructure, servers, workstations, phone systems, cloud services, and IT helpdesk support for staff, including hardware/software troubleshooting
- Oversee automation systems, content management systems, and digital delivery platforms (streaming, podcasting, apps)
- Develop backup, disaster recovery, and business continuity plans

Leadership & Administration

- Supervise engineering and IT staff and/or contractors, control room operators, and manage vendor and contractor relationships
- Develop and manage the engineering/IT budget, including capital equipment planning
- Research and recommend new technologies to improve efficiency, audio quality, and audience reach
- Maintain documentation of systems, technical procedures, and emergency protocols
- Serve as a technical liaison with other public media engineers, industry organizations (e.g., NPR, PBS, SBE), and regulatory bodies
- Participate in station leadership discussions on strategic planning and long-term infrastructure needs

Qualifications

- Proficiency in designing, installing, maintaining, troubleshooting, and repairing broadcast audio, FM transmission, studio, automation and control systems
- Ability to understand and use schematics, flow charts and technical documentation
- Ability to troubleshoot and repair broadcast equipment at the component level
- Experience with TCP/IP networking and IP-based digital audio systems.
- Knowledge of FCC license and reporting requirements
- Valid driver's license; position requires travel to remote transmitter sites
- Ability to lift and carry up to 50 lbs., climb ladders, work in varied outdoor conditions on rooftops and in confined spaces
- Must have excellent vision (with or without corrective lenses) with ability to identify and distinguish colors
- Strong written and verbal communication and problem-solving skills
- A positive work attitude, a strong work ethic, and ability to work well with others
- Ability to prioritize and make changes to work plans without loss of efficiency
- Ability to make well-informed decisions quickly while under pressure
- Ability to manage multiple projects and tasks
- Must be able to work weekends, holidays, and non-standard shifts in emergency situations as required
- Bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering, Communications, or a related field; or equivalent experience in the maintenance, repair and design of broadcast audio systems and FM broadcast transmission systems.

Starting Salary \$68,000