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CAREER
OPPORTUNITY

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SPECIALIST II NETWORK ARCHITECT

LOS ANGELES COUNTY EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION (LACERA)

PASADENA, CALIFORNIA ANNUAL SALARY: **\$158,156–\$207,444 DOE/DOQ**

**75% Remote, 25% On-Site Position* Must live within a 4-hour drive from Pasadena*

THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION (LACERA) is seeking an **Information Technology Specialist II—Network Architect** to lead a team of six staff in the ongoing design and maintenance of the organization's physical and virtual network infrastructure, as well as LACERA's Data Center. This role offers an exciting opportunity to contribute to the functionality and security posture of critical government systems and services. While applications are predominantly hosted in the cloud to ensure operational continuity even in the event of infrastructure loss, this position will also attend to on-site systems on occasion. This role will involve designing and planning network infrastructure, selecting and implementing network technologies, analyzing and optimizing network performance, ensuring network security, troubleshooting network issues, collaborating with other Information Technology teams, and documenting network design and configurations. Providing excellent customer service to end-users and mentoring junior staff are integral components of this role. Experience in a similar-sized organization, particularly in a development environment where custom software solutions are developed in-house, is highly desirable. Public sector experience is also a plus, given the unique challenges and regulations associated with pension administration. *Help carry out LACERA's mission to protect, produce, and provide the promised benefits to its members—apply today!*

LACERA



the **COMMUNITY**

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA, OFFERS A VIBRANT and captivating lifestyle that entices individuals to work, live, and play in this diverse metropolis. With its robust economy, professionals are drawn to its thriving industries such as entertainment, technology, and fashion. The area boasts a pleasant Mediterranean climate, with year-round sunshine and mild winters, making it an ideal place to call home. From the stunning beaches of Santa Monica to the iconic landmarks like the Hollywood Sign and Griffith Observatory, Los Angeles provides a plethora of recreational activities and cultural experiences.

The LACERA office is located in Pasadena, California. Pasadena is nestled in the west foothills of the San Gabriel Mountains, just 15 miles north of downtown Los Angeles. This ethnically and economically diverse city is home to over 140,000 people. Its economy thrives on the educational and entrepreneurial features of the city, including the California Institute of Technology (Caltech), Art Center College of Design, and Pasadena City College. Historical homes and landmarks line the streets of Pasadena, giving the community a sense of heritage, while looking to the future. Traveling from Pasadena to neighboring communities is a breeze thanks to the Metro L Line that includes six stations in Pasadena en route to the San Gabriel Valley. The city is known on a national and international stage for its Rose Bowl events, Tournament of Roses Parade, and annual Rose Bowl Game. Other notable attractions include the Pasadena Convention Center and Civic Auditorium, Norton Simon Museum, the USC Pacific Asia Museum, and the Gamble House.



the ORGANIZATION

LACERA'S MISSION IS TO PRODUCE, protect, and provide promised benefits to members. The organization achieves its mission through shared values, including: Accountability, Collaboration, Inclusivity, Innovation, Integrity, and Transparency.

LACERA administers and manages the \$75+ billion retirement fund for the County of Los Angeles. The organization provides retirement, disability, and death benefits to eligible County employees and their beneficiaries and collects, deposits, invests, and manages retirement funds collected from the County, outside districts, and County employees. LACERA is the largest county retirement association in the United States with over 184,000 members. It employs over 500 staff members across 15 specialized divisions and operates on an approximate budget of \$135 million. LACERA's membership is comprised of individuals from a diverse range of careers, age groups, and ethnicities—all contributing to the greater welfare of Los Angeles County. Benefits include health insurance, annual leave, sick leave, retirement, paid holidays, and a ride share program.

LEARN MORE HERE



the INFRASTRUCTURE DIVISION

THE INFRASTRUCTURE SECTION consists of three units: Engineering, Service Desk, and Telecommunications/Audiovisuals. Infrastructure supports the foundational technology needs of LACERA members and staff members—including a hybrid meeting structure for Board of Trustees meetings, a call center for members, and the essential security framework protecting the organization.

The Engineering Unit is charged with the management, support, and maintenance of all servers, hosted solutions, and vulnerability management solutions.

The Service Desk Unit processes incoming requests and incident reports and facilitates assistance for 450+ end users in the organization.

The Telecommunications/Audiovisuals Unit is responsible for the management of the organization's corporate telecommunications, remote call center, and oversight of the Board of Trustees boardroom meetings that includes a hybrid and livestreamed monthly meeting structure.

While much of the Infrastructure Section are permanent full-time staff members, the Lead Engineer will also interface with a significant amount of contract staff who collaborate with the Systems Division on new technology implementation.



the *JOB/IDEAL CANDIDATE*

THE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SPECIALIST II — NETWORK ARCHITECT will report to the Information Technology Manager II and work within the Infrastructure Section, acting as team lead of six network engineers. This role encompasses a broad spectrum of responsibilities crucial for the organization's network infrastructure. The primary task is designing the network infrastructure, balancing both physical and virtual components, with a notable emphasis on virtualization. This role involves strategizing the transition of on premises to hosted solutions, ensuring a seamless user experience. A significant aspect of this role's day-to-day responsibilities involves troubleshooting network issues promptly to minimize downtime and ensure uninterrupted operations. Additionally, periodic upkeep of the data center, including equipment refreshes, is necessary to maintain optimal performance and reliability for the remaining on-premises infrastructure. The organization maintains an off-site data center within a larger facility, necessitating biannual visits to oversee equipment maintenance and ensure the continuity of both physical and hosted infrastructure. Interpersonally, the Network Architect will be an enthusiastic and engaging team leader and project manager. They will be highly communicative, with the ability to explain complex technological concepts in a simplified and engaging way. This position's expertise is crucial to keeping LACERA at the forefront of emerging technologies and industry trends!



The ideal Network Architect will:

- ▶ Create high-level and detailed network design considering factors such as scalability, performance, security, and reliability.
- ▶ Choose appropriate hardware, software, protocols, and services to meet the organizations requirements and objectives.
- ▶ Monitor network performance metrics, troubleshoot issues, and optimize network configurations to ensure efficient and reliable operation.
- ▶ Ensure the security and efficiency of the network by overseeing or conducting regular security patching, managing licenses for end-users and evaluating new system requests.
- ▶ Work closely with system administrators, cybersecurity specialists, and software developers to integrate network components with other systems and applications.
- ▶ Offer expertise and guidance to other staff and management on network-related matters, including best practices, emerging technologies, and strategic planning.
- ▶ Maintain detailed documentation of network architectures, configurations, and procedures to facilitate troubleshooting, maintenance, and future upgrades.
- ▶ Liaise with cloud vendors to ensure smooth integration and support for hosted services.
- ▶ Be a strategic problem solver, assess issues, identify areas for network setup and security improvement, and work to solve problems when they arise.
- ▶ Think strategically, forecast potential threats, and understand the factors influencing pension security; implement proper firewall protection and encryption.
- ▶ Seek new knowledge and learn new programs and systems as technology advances.
- ▶ Believe in and protect LACERA's mission, vision, and values!

THE IDEAL CANDIDATE may also have some or all of the below:

DESIRED EDUCATION

- ▶ **Degree(s):** A bachelor's or master's degree from an accredited college or university with major study in information technology, computer science, cyber security administration, or a related field.

DESIRED CERTIFICATIONS

- ▶ Information Technology Certifications: CompTIA, ITIL
- ▶ Information Security Certifications: CompTIA Security+, CISSP, CISM, Certified Ethical Hacker (CEH)
- ▶ Cloud Certifications: AWS, Azure, GCP
- ▶ Network Certifications: CCNA, CCNP, CCIE

PROGRAMS & KNOWLEDGE

- ▶ Network Protocols and Knowledge: TCP IP nomenclature, VPN, Ethernet, TLS
- ▶ Information Security Programs and Systems: SIEM and SOC (current/future LACERA programs), ISO/IEC 27001, SOAR, XDR Antivirus, CASB, Firewalls and Firewall access control rules, Encryption Methodologies, DMZ, IDS/IPS
- ▶ Programming Languages: PowerShell, Python, C#, Java, JavaScript, Rust, experience in secure coding practices SAST/DAST
- ▶ Operating Systems: Microsoft, Linux, Lynx, z/VM
- ▶ Consolidated Solutions: SASE, SD-WAN, CASB



EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS

Minimum Qualifications

▶ Specialty Experience

Two (2) years of experience, within the last three (3) years, at the level of Information Technology Specialist I, LACERA*, or Data Systems Supervisor II, LACERA*, performing highly specialized and complex network design and analysis. Such experience must include providing leadership for complex implementation in a high-availability environment, including planning, designing, analysis, and overall project management of network related issues.

**Experience at the level of Information Technology Specialist I, LACERA includes acting as a consultant, technical expert, systems architect, or project manager in a specialized area of applications development, database administration, operating systems, cybersecurity, information system analysis, or network systems for a centralized IT organization. This is principal level technical expert.*

**Experience at the level of Data Systems Supervisor II, LACERA, includes supervising through subordinate supervisors a large staff engaged in the analysis, design, and implementation of manual and electronic information and work processing systems, or coordinates the systems program of a centralized IT organization.*

- ▶ A valid California Class C Driver License or the ability to utilize an alternative method of transportation when needed to carry out job-related essential functions.

SALARY & BENEFITS

An annual salary of **\$158,156–\$207,444 DOE/DOQ**, plus a generous benefits package that includes:

MegaFlex Benefit Plan. Benefits may be purchased using a tax-free monthly benefits allowance of 14.5%–17% of the Staff Member's monthly salary. If the monthly cost of the benefits selected is less than the monthly allowance, the Staff Member receives the difference as additional taxable pay.

Medical, Dental, Disability, Life and AD&D insurance, Annual Leave, and Health and Dependent Care Spending Accounts. Available in MegaFlex.

Defined Benefit Retirement Plans. To learn more about these plans, contact us at (800) 786-6464.

Savings Plan (401k). Optional tax-deferred income plan that includes a County match up to 4% of employee's salary.

Deferred Compensation Plan (457). Optional tax-deferred income plan that includes a County match of up to 4% of employee's salary.

Leave Time. Instead of traditional sick and vacation leave, employees earn 10 days of annual leave per year and may buy up to 20 additional days of annual leave.

Holidays. 13 days per year.

Bereavement Leave

Flexible Spending Accounts. Employees may contribute each month tax-free to Health Care (up to \$254) and Dependent Care (up to \$400) Spending Accounts. The County contributes \$100 per month to the Dependent Care Spending Account.

Rideshare Benefits. Monthly transit subsidy, pass purchase program, monthly vanpool subsidy, commuter choice subsidy.

Tuition Reimbursement. Subject to availability of funds.

Candidates will have the opportunity for a hybrid work schedule, with a requirement to be onsite 25% of time.

HOW to APPLY

Online Application: LACERA offers a simple and convenient online application (application process should only take 15 minutes). For consideration, please apply online by **APRIL 18** and attach your cover letter (desired) and resume.

APPLY NOW



Only the highest qualified applicants will be invited to continue to the Appraisal (Oral) Interview **weighted 100%**. The interview will assess the applicant's knowledge, experience, and general ability to perform the essential functions of the position.

SAVE THE DATES

Those candidates which are determined eligible for hire under the Los Angeles County's Civil Service Rules may be invited to the selection process. Round one interviews will be held virtually and take place on **MAY 30**. Finalists will move forward to round two in-person interviews that take place on **JUNE 10**. Candidates invited to interview will need to be available for both days.

Please contact your recruiter, Wendi Brown, with any questions: **wendi@wbcpinc.com**

866.929.WBCP (9227) toll-free

541.664.0376 direct