



NWSEO Grieves Failure of NWS to Issue MAP Announcement for Electronics Technician Vacancies

(April 12, 2020) On April 10, 2020, NWSEO filed a grievance over the failure of the National Weather Service (NWS) to bid six GS-10/11 Electronics Technician (ET) vacancies in the Western Region via a “Merit Assignment Plan” or MAP vacancy announcement simultaneously with a Delegated Examining authority (or DE/CR) announcement.

It has been a past practice to bid these positions as both MAP and DE/CR and to offer relocation expenses to internal applicants selected under the MAP announcement. There have been at least 30 such simultaneous announcements since 2017, and multiple internal applicants were selected and offered relocation expenses.

NWS’ decision to not advertise these six Western Region ET vacancies through a MAP announcement on this occasion deprived internal applicants of relocation expenses if they were selected.

NWS’ failure to advertise these vacancies through a simultaneous MAP announcement is a violation of Article 8, Section 7 of the Collective Bargaining Agreement: “Any existing non-contractual past practices as of the effective date of this Agreement, which are not contrary to law or government wide regulation, may only be changed through the provisions of this Article.”

**No one cares more for National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) employees
than NOAA employees.**

No one works harder for NOAA employees than NOAA employees.

We are NOAA employees. We are NWSEO.

NWSEO proudly represents more NOAA employees than any other Union. NWSEO serves bargaining unit employees of the National Weather Service, NESDIS Office of Satellite and Product Operations, Office of General Counsel, Aircraft Operations Center, and Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorological Laboratory.