

Dear Hiring Manager,

I am writing to express my keen interest in the Junior Structural Engineer position at Arcadis in Houston, Texas. With a Master's degree in Structural Engineering from Louisiana State University and five years of hands-on experience in the realm of hydraulic and structural design of spillways and outlet works, I am confident in my ability to contribute positively to your esteemed organization.

Upon earning my B.S. degree in Civil Engineering from Bulent Ecevit University in Turkey and being awarded a prestigious fellowship from the Ministry of Education to study abroad, I delved deeper into my interest in the seismic design of concrete gravity dams during my master's program at LSU. I understand the importance of infrastructural knowledge and experience for this role, and my research focus aligns perfectly with this requisite. This in-depth study gave me a profound understanding of the complexities of seismic reactions in heavy infrastructures.

In my professional journey, I have been privileged to work as a Project Engineer at the Department of Dams and Hydro-power Plants in the State Hydraulic Works of Turkey – the top governmental institution that designs and regulates water works in the country. During my five-year tenure, I not only surpassed the required two years of heavy infrastructure experience but also deepened my expertise in the hydraulic and structural design of critical infrastructures, including spillways, outlet works, and diversion tunnels. Since Turkey does not have a design code/standards for infrastructures like dams, we mainly rely on the design standards set by the USBR or the USACE for our structures. This familiarity underscores my capability to swiftly and seamlessly adapt to U.S. standards. Furthermore, for six months I played an important role during the construction stage of flood protection structures, such as flood protection walls and dikes, serving as a control engineer.

I'd like to emphasize that within the scope of my role, I was deeply involved in the design of concrete walls for spillways and outlet works. This responsibility not only showcases my expertise but also aligns with the accountabilities of the position in question.

It is noteworthy to mention that I will be relocating to Houston in the near future (like January) as my wife has secured a scholarship to pursue her graduate studies in the US. Fortunately, I will be on a J2 visa, eliminating the need for a skilled worker visa on my behalf.

Incorporating my theoretical knowledge with practical experience, I believe I bring to the table a unique blend of skills that would be invaluable to Arcadis. I am deeply passionate about structural engineering and look forward to the opportunity to collaborate with the innovative team at Arcadis, contributing to the challenging projects that the firm undertakes.

I am eager to discuss how my background, skills, and enthusiasm for structural engineering align with the needs of Arcadis. Thank you for considering my application. I look forward to the possibility of contributing to your team and am available at your earliest convenience for a discussion.

Warm regards,

Ufuk Sen  
Ankara, Turkey