

ENVIRONMENTAL SPECIALIST II

DEFINITION

Under supervision, to conduct sanitary inspections and investigations in the enforcement of Federal, State, County, and local environmental health, safety, and hazardous materials laws, rules, regulations, and standards; to prepare studies and reports; and to do related work as required.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS

This is the journey-level in the Environmental Specialist class series. Incumbents in this class are Registered Environmental Specialists and conduct the more difficult investigations on an independent basis.

REPORTS TO

Health Officer or designee.

CLASSIFICATIONS DIRECTLY SUPERVISED

None.

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES

Duties may include but are not limited to the following:

Conducts inspections to secure compliance with Federal, State, and local sanitation laws and regulations governing food handling establishments, sewage disposal systems, substandard housing, land use, swimming pools, recreational health, water supply systems, solid waste management, public nuisances, toxic/hazardous waste materials, underground storage tanks, and other areas; recommends changes and provides instruction for deficiencies and violations corrections; advises food handlers and restaurant operators on correct methods of sanitation protection; investigates complaints such as public/private sanitation-related nuisances; conducts or assists with sanitation surveys of communities and confers with local officials on sanitation problems; assists with investigations of insect nuisances or infestations; works with solid waste issues and problems, including illegal garbage dumping; inspects public and private recreational facilities and swimming pools; assists with housing inspections to determine health and safety compliance with appropriate laws and standards; inspects facilities to minimize future health threats; takes water, sewage, soil, and waste samples and may assist in interpreting data; assists in reviewing plans for new subdivisions and recommends suitable water and sewage installations; assists in reviewing and recommending changes in building plan to comply with Environmental Health regulations and standards; conducts

on-site evaluations of sewage disposal systems or water delivery systems; assists with or conducts studies and evaluates information regarding hazardous materials storage, treatment, disposal, reduction, and reuse; completes reports of findings; assists with initiation of legal actions resulting from non-compliance or scheduling an administrative hearing; assists with the development of operating rules and ordinances; makes abatement recommendations and instructs communities in control methods for waste issues; may testify in court; maintain confidentiality.

TYPICAL PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS

Sit for extended periods; frequently stand and walk; crawl through various areas on hands and knees; stand, walk, or crouch on narrow and slippery surfaces; climb ladders, stairs, and scaffolding; normal manual dexterity and eye-hand coordination; lift and move object weighing up to 50 pounds without assistance and greater than 50 pounds with assistance; corrected hearing and vision to normal range; verbal communication; use of office equipment including computers, telephones, calculators, copiers, and FAX; ability to operate audio-visual equipment; ability to use testing equipment.

TYPICAL WORKING CONDITIONS

Work is performed in either an office or field environment; work may be performed in varying temperature and humidity; exposure to high levels of noise; some exposure to dust, chemicals, gases and bio-hazardous waste; frequent contact with staff and the public.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS

Knowledge of:

- Chemical, biological, physical, and environmental sciences.
- Basic principles and practices of environmental health and hazardous waste inspection, review, compliance, and consultation.
- Sampling techniques and standards.
- Computers and software used in environmental inspections and investigations.
- Functions and operations of organizations and agencies involved with environmental health.
- Methods and techniques of investigation, inspection, and resolving environmental health problems.

Ability and willingness to:

- Perform a variety of environmental health and hazardous waste investigations and inspections.
- Collect, analyze, and interpret environmental data, reaching valid conclusions.
- Interpret and apply policies, regulations, and procedures regarding environmental health inspections and compliance.
- Prepare a variety of technical reports.
- Perform research and analytical work.

- Operate a variety of office equipment and computers.
- Establish and maintain cooperative working relationships.
- Maintain confidentiality.

Training and Experience: Any combination of training and experience which would provide the required knowledge and abilities is qualifying. A typical way to obtain the required knowledge and abilities might be:

Two (2) years experience equivalent to an Environmental Specialist I.

Graduation from a four (4) year college or university with a major in biology, chemistry, physics, environmental science, or a closely related field is highly desirable.

Special Requirements:

- Possession of a driver's license valid in California.
- Possess a valid Environmental Health Registration issued by the State Department of Health Services.

This job specification should not be construed to imply that these requirements are the exclusive standards of the position. Not all duties are necessarily performed by each incumbent. Additionally, incumbents will be required to follow instructions and to perform other job related duties as may be required.

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