

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SPECIALIST II

DEFINITION

Under general direction, conducts routine sanitary inspections and investigations in the enforcement of Federal, State, County, and local environmental health, safety, and hazardous materials laws, rules, regulations, and standards; provides training for other staff; and performs related work as required.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS

This is the fully experienced journey level in the Environmental Health Specialist class series. Incumbents in this class are registered Environmental Health Specialists and conduct a broad array of education, inspection and enforcement activities in all environmental health program areas.

REPORTS TO

Director of Environmental Health

CLASSIFICATIONS DIRECTLY SUPERVISED

May provide training for other staff, as necessary.

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EXAMPLES OF DUTIES

- The Environmental Health Specialist II performs a broad array of environmental health program activities.
- The incumbent conducts routine inspections to secure compliance with Federal, State, and local sanitation laws and regulations in all environmental health program areas including: food and consumer protection, sewage disposal and liquid waste management, housing and institutions, land use, recreational health, water supply protection, solid waste management, public nuisances, hazardous materials management, underground storage tanks, vector and rabies control.
- Typical duties may include:
- Performs food facility inspections and advises food handlers and restaurant operators on correct methods of sanitation protection.
- Conducts investigations of public or private sanitation-related nuisances or complaints.
- Makes inspections of public recreational facilities and swimming pools.
- Makes housing inspections to determine health and safety compliance with appropriate laws and standards.
- Takes water, sewage, soil, and waste samples and interprets data.
- Interprets environmental health laws and regulations for the public.
- Reviews plans for new subdivisions and recommends suitable water and sewage installations.
- Reviews and approves development and construction plans for compliance with Environmental Health regulations and standards.
- Conducts on-site evaluations of sewage disposal systems.
- Conducts studies and evaluates information regarding hazardous materials storage, treatment, disposal, reduction, and reuse.
- Completes reports of findings.
- Initiates legal actions resulting from non-compliance by issuing a notice to appear in court, filing a criminal complaint, or scheduling an administrative hearing.
- Works with various environmental health committees.
- Assists with the development of Environmental Health policies and ordinances.
- Makes abatement recommendations and instructs communities in proper control methods.
- Participates in and conducts training of staff.
- Prepares and submits complex studies and reports.
- Conducts educational meetings with the public.
- Testifies in court as expert witness.

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 25 pounds; corrected hearing and vision to normal range; verbal communication; use of office equipment including computers, telephones, calculators, copiers, and FAX.

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TYPICAL WORKING CONDITIONS

Work is usually performed in both an indoor and outdoor environment; some work is performed in varying temperature and humidity; exposure to high levels of noise; some exposure to dust; continuous contact with staff and the public.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS

Knowledge of:

- Laws, rules, regulations, requirements, and procedures governing environmental health, sanitation, and hazardous wastes.
- Chemical, biological, physical, and environmental sciences.
- Principles and practices of environmental health and hazardous waste inspection, review, compliance, consultation and enforcement.
- Methods and procedures for inspecting and correcting unsanitary conditions.
- Sampling techniques and standards.
- Functions and operations of related local, State, and Federal agencies and community organization.
- Computerized Environmental Health database and information systems.
- Principles and practices of quality customer service.

Ability to:

- Perform a variety of environmental health and hazardous waste investigations and inspections with minimal guidance and supervision.
- Perform special assignments and projects.
- Provide training for other staff.
- Collect, analyze, and interpret environmental data, reaching valid conclusions.
- Read, interpret and apply policies, regulations, and procedures regarding environmental health inspections and compliance.
- Prepare a variety of technical reports.
- Provide instruction, guidance, and consultation in correction of environmental health problems and unsanitary conditions.
- Operate a variety of office equipment and computers in the performance of environmental health inspections and investigations.
- Effectively represent Environmental Health in contacts with the public, and other agencies.
- Establish and maintain effective working relationships.

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Training and Experience:

Qualification needed for this position:

Eighteen (18) months of experience performing a variety of environmental health investigations and inspections equivalent of Environmental Health Specialist I with Plumas County.

Equivalent to graduation from a four (4) year college or university with a major in biology, chemistry, physics, environmental science, or a closely related field.

Special Requirements: Possession of valid Environmental Health registration issued by the State Department of Health Services.

Must possess a valid driver's license at time of application and a valid California Drivers License by the time of appointment. The valid California License must be maintained throughout employment.

Some positions may require special training and/or certification as necessary for the area of assignment.

All County of Plumas employees are designated Disaster Service Workers through State law (California Government Code Section 3100-3109). Employment with Plumas County requires the affirmation of a loyalty oath to this effect. Employees are Required to complete all Disaster Service Work related training as assigned, and to return to work as ordered in the event of an emergency.