SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SPECIALIST

DEFINITION

Under general supervision, as lead worker in a specific environmental program, independently performs and directs others in the full range of environmental duties, including facility inspection, environmental sampling, public education, data recording and analysis; ensures appropriate enforcement actions; reviews permit applications, building and site plans for compliance; and performs related work as required.

EXPERIENCE AND TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

A bachelor’s degree from an accredited college or university with major course work in natural sciences, environmental sciences, engineering or a closely related field AND three years of full-time experience performing environmental control or enforcement functions in a health department or industry, including one year of experience in a specialized program area.

LICENSE OR CERTIFICATE

Requires certificate of registration as an Environmental Health Specialist with the Nevada State Board of Environmental Health Specialist within 90 days of appointment.

May require the ability to obtain Certification in the State of Nevada as a General Commercial Restricted Use Pesticide Applicator in the categories of Mosquito and Public Health. Certification must be obtained if assigned to the Vector Program.

A valid driver's license is required at the time of appointment.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS

This class is distinguished from Environmental Health Specialist by lead worker responsibility over the flexibly staffed Environmental Health Specialist series in a specific environmental program. Incumbents also perform the full range of environmental inspection and enforcement duties.

SUPERVISION EXERCISED

Provides lead direction over support staff assigned to the Environmental Health Services Division.

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES (The following is used as a partial description and is not restrictive as to duties required.)

As lead worker in a specific environmental program, direct program activities; schedule, assign and review work; train Environmentalists and other support staff (including seasonal) in procedures and protocols of environmental health to ensure that activities are performed within established standards and regulations, conduct annual needs assessments and develop goals and objectives for program activities and staff assignments.
Perform inspections and investigations of environmental complaints and conditions to determine the extent of compliance/non-compliance and need for corrective/preventative action; ensure compliance with environmental standards and regulations by issuing quarantine orders; issue or revoke operating permits.

Conduct field surveys, determining sources of potential environmental health hazards and population ecologies to evaluate public health risks; implement methods for controlling or eradicating specific environmental deficiencies to curtail conditions that adversely affect human health, safety, and comfort.

Review permit applications and building plans to determine if proposed construction and/or businesses are in compliance with established health and safety regulations; recommend modifications to building plans and establishments to achieve compliance and gain permit approval.

Participate in public and industrial education, developing and presenting programs and training classes on environmental issues to schools, businesses and community groups to promote awareness and understanding of programs, services, policies and regulatory requirements.

Write inspection and investigation reports, which evaluate findings and include recommendations; assemble data, (computerized and manual) for tracking and documentation purposes and to prepare federal, state and local reports.

Testify in court and before designated hearing boards regarding actions, involvement, observations and information obtained, as it relates to violations of environmental regulations.

Develop regulations and recommend changes in division protocols and procedures; recommend methods for the control or eradication of environmental hazards or deficiencies.

Ensure that assigned personnel perform duties and responsibilities in a safe and prudent manner that does not expose them or others to unnecessary harm or risk of on-the-job injury.

**JOB RELATED AND ESSENTIAL QUALIFICATIONS**

**Full Performance (These may be acquired on the job and are needed to perform the work assigned.)**

**Knowledge of:**
Health/safety violations and possible solutions specific to assigned area(s).

Departmental/divisional policies and procedures.

Operations, services, protocols and activities of assigned program area(s).

Local geography and population densities.

Management information systems and software programs used in the assigned area(s).

**Ability to:**
Train and lead staff in the performance of assigned program(s) activities; assign, direct and review work.

Interpret, explain and enforce District protocols, policies and procedures within assigned program area(s).

Make visual presentations to a variety of audiences, including training and public education programs.

Operate and maintain assigned departmental equipment used in testing, sampling and control of environmental hazards and deficiencies.
Work cooperatively with other departments, divisions, outside agencies and boards, business owners, management and the general public.

**Entry Level** *(Applicants will be screened for possession of these through written, oral, performance or other evaluation methods.)*

**Knowledge of:**
Federal, state and local regulations governing compliance with environmental standards for health, safety and comfort.

Investigative sampling/testing protocols, methods and techniques for environmental health and vector control programs.

Conditions contributing to environmental health problems, including human disease/injury causation factors (human, animal and plant) and accepted control measures.

Quantitative methods, scientific methodology, data collection and report preparation.

Instrumentation and equipment commonly used in environmental health programs.

Training methods, techniques and practices.

**Ability to:**
Use sampling and testing methods for environmental health data acquisition.

Operate instruments and equipment commonly used in environmental health programs.

Observe and evaluate environmental deficiencies and hazards and recommend solutions.

Read, interpret, apply and explain pertinent laws, statutes, codes, regulations, protocols and standards, including administrative and departmental policies and procedures.

Develop and implement disease/injury control/prevention measures which cross program areas.

Write investigative reports and other documents.

 Operate a personal computer and use a variety of software packages.

Communicate clearly and concisely, both orally and in writing.

Research, compile, tabulate, analyze and interpret data and information.

Read blueprints and construction plans.

Maintain files, records, data and information.

Work independently in the absence of direct supervision.

Plan, prioritize and organize work to meet schedules and timelines.

Maintain cooperative working relationships with those encountered in the course of work.
SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS (Essential duties require the following physical skills and work environment.)

Work is performed in a standard office environment and various indoor and outdoor offsite locations. Ability to lift and move objects weighing up to 50 lbs. Ability to operate relevant testing equipment. Ability to use standard office equipment including computers, copiers, telephones, and FAX machines. Ability to work around machinery with moving parts and on slippery or uneven surfaces. Ability to tolerate exposure to the elements, dust, chemicals, and possibly toxic substances.

This class specification is used for classification, recruitment and examination purposes. It is not to be considered a substitute for work performance standards.