

*Code: 4535*

*Title: ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SPECIALIST I*

**SUMMARY:** Performs work in the public health, consumer health and food safety field by carrying out investigations, inspections, educational and enforcement functions. This classification is differentiated from the Environmental Health Technician by its focus on inspections relating to food/safety health matters of recreational, housing and food agencies and establishments.

**DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:** (Work assignments may vary depending on the department's needs and will be communicated to the applicant or incumbent by the supervisor.)

Investigates, inspects and advises recreational, housing and food agencies and establishments, e.g., restaurants, food mobiles, adult and child protection services, home/day care centers, hotels, motels, massage studios, ice manufacturing plants, bed and breakfast facilities, schools, trailer parks, and warehouses, within assigned area of jurisdiction on health related matters;

Investigates vector-related complaints and recommends appropriate treatment of infested areas;

Interprets, promotes, and enforces public health/food safety federal, state laws and regulations and local ordinances;

Applies the intent of statutes, regulations and ordinances as they pertain to food establishments and agencies requiring licensing;

Recommends permit suspension, permit revocation and other enforcement tactics for non-compliance to supervisor for consideration;

Responds to requests to abate environmental health hazards on public and private property;

Maintains manual and computer-based records;

Prepares, presents, and submits routine, recurring and special reports;

Prepares educational manuals and handouts, facilitates workshops, pool and food certifications and other on-site educational programs;

Participates in developing new programs and revising existing programs;

May assist in making public presentations on environmental health matters;

May assist in performing epidemiological investigation of food borne disease outbreaks;

May assist in the collection of samples of food, water and sewage for laboratory analysis and interpreting results.

#### **KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS:**

##### Knowledge of:

- principles and practices of investigation, inspection, and enforcement of health and sanitation related matters;
- principles and practices of vector control;
- relevant federal, state, and local health codes, laws, rules, regulations, ordinances and standards;
- biological, bacteriological, and physical sciences applicable to environmental health investigation, inspection, education, and enforcement;
- procedures and techniques of collecting samples of products for laboratory analysis;
- principles and practices of preparing and presenting educational materials and programs;
- effective communication techniques;
- principles and practices of public health.

##### Skill in:

- performing and documenting investigations and inspections for recreational, housing and food establishments;
- public contact, verbal and written communications;

- inspecting, educating, and enforcing environmental health rules, regulations and standards;
- applying, interpreting, and enforcing appropriate sanitation and health laws, rules, regulations, codes, and standards;
- recommending enforcement tactics for non-compliance;
- collecting samples of products for laboratory analysis and interpreting testing results;
- preparing educational and informational materials.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:                      EITHER:

(1) Successful completion of 30 semester credit hours at an accredited college or university in the natural sciences\*, as defined by the Arizona Sanitarians Council, with a grade of “C” or greater. (A transcript of courses completed and grades must be attached to the application materials.)

\*ARS 36-136.01(I)(3) and Title 9, R9-16-401.9. The Sanitarian’s Council has defined “natural science” as: anatomy, bacteriology, biochemistry, biology, botany, biophysics, biostatistics, cell physiology, chemical engineering, chemistry, ecology, embryology, endocrinology, entomology, environmental health, epidemiology, food bacteriology, dairy sciences, genetics, geophysics, geology, herpetology, histology, hydro-geology, hydrology, ichthyology, limnology, microbiology, molecular biology, ornithology, parasitology, pathology, pharmacy, physics, physiology, plant taxonomy, radiological health, sanitary engineering, sewage sanitation, soil science, toxicology, vector control, veterinary science, virology, or zoology, of the study of air pollution, community health, environmental diseases, hazardous waste, industrial hygiene, infectious diseases, occupational safety or public health.

OR:

(2) Five years of work experience as a Sanitarian Assistant or technician in either a recognized public health agency or private industry in a position directly related to environmental health.

OR:

(3) Five years of full-time military duty in the field of environmental health.

OR:

(4) One year of work experience as a registered Sanitarian in the State of Arizona.

OTHER REQUIREMENTS:

Licenses and Certificates: All positions require possession of a valid registration in the State of Arizona as a professional sanitarian within one year from the date of appointment. Some positions may require an Arizona Pest Control Operator certification at the time of appointment or prior to completion of initial/promotional probation. All positions require a valid Arizona Class D driver license at the time of application. Failure to obtain/maintain the required registration/certification/licensure shall be grounds for termination.

Physical/Sensory Requirements: Physical and sensory abilities will be determined by position. All positions will be exposed to outdoor extreme climate conditions and indoor commercial environments that are sometimes extremely hot, cold, wet, and unsanitary, which require the proper wearing of individual safety and protective clothing and equipment.

This classification specification is intended to indicate the basic nature of positions allocated to the class and examples of typical duties that may be assigned. It does not imply that all positions within the class perform all of the duties listed, nor does it necessarily list all possible duties that may be assigned.