

Registered Sanitarian Job Description

I. Activities

1. Food Safety Related Activities
 - a. Pre-inspections and site surveys of proposed food establishments.
 - b. Inspect food establishments, vending machines, fair stands, and mobile food operations, farmers markets, community celebrations.
 - c. Investigate food related complaints involving licensed operations.
 - d. Investigate reports of food borne disease outbreaks.
 - e. Co-ordinate activities with the Department of Inspections and Appeals.
 - f. Other contracted services such as Hotel/Motel inspections.
 - g. Train food operation staff in the FDA Food Code.
 - h. Act as source of safe food handling techniques to the general public.
2. Iowa Department of Public Health Activities
 - a. Inspect swimming pools, spas, tanning, and tattoo operations.
 - b. Investigate complaints involving licensed operations.
3. Water Wells and Geothermal Wells
 - a. Site surveys of proposed well locations.
 - b. Operate the permit program.
 - c. Inspect wells.
 - d. Consult on water and geo-thermal well related situations.
 - e. Operate the “Grants to Counties” program addressing the sampling, plugging, and rehabilitation of wells.
 - f. Act as a source of information for private well owner/users.
 - g. Co-ordinate activities with DIA, IDPH, and the IDNR
 - h. Update the state Private Well Tracking System database using internet technology.
4. On-site Waste Treatment Systems
 - a. Site surveys.
 - b. Operate permit program.
 - c. Consult with owners and contractors.
 - d. Inspect private on-site waste treatment systems under construction.
 - e. Investigate situations related to on-site waste treatment systems.
 - f. Evaluate subdivision and approve the layouts for the county.

Activity Summary:

The environmental health staff are called upon to confer with government, community, industrial, and emergency management and private organizations, and collaborate with other health personnel in epidemiological investigations.

The environmental health staff also advises civic and other officials in development of environmental health laws and regulations. The environmental health staff also enforces or oversees the enforcement of various county and state regulations. Due to the enforcement duties inherent in the position, the staff must be able to deal with extremely stressful situations and possibly irate individuals.

Education and certification requirements:

Graduation from college with a B.S. or B.A. degree with emphasis in the physical sciences preferred. Scholastic achievements must meet the National Environmental Health Associations requirements for the REHS/RS credential.

Registration with the National Environmental Health Association as an RS or REHS.

Continuing education is required to maintain current certification and job related skills.

A valid drivers license.

Physical requirements:

The physical requirements described here are those, which have proven to be beneficial in fulfilling duties. Walking over broken ground, climbing, balancing, flexibility, adequate vision, adequate hearing, and the ability to manipulate various objects and equipment.

Employees may regularly lift and move loads of up to twenty pounds and occasionally lift and move loads of up to fifty pounds.

Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.