Date Revised: 6/1/17 FLSA: Non-Exempt

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SPECIALIST III

DEFINITION

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

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS

This is the lead level in the Environmental Health Specialist class series. Incumbents in this class are Registered Environmental Specialists and conduct the full scope of investigations on an independent basis.

REPORTS TO

Environmental Health Director or designee.

CLASSIFICATIONS DIRECTLY SUPERVISED

May provide lead training under the direction of the Environmental Health Manager.

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES

Duties may include but are not limited to the following:

- Conducts inspections and provides guidance to secure compliance with State and local health and safety laws and regulations pertaining to food establishments, individual onsite sewage disposal systems, land use, public swimming pools and spas and other recreational health facilities, small public water systems, solid waste disposal facilities, hazardous waste and materials management, underground storage tanks, and other areas.
- Provides instruction and directs corrective action for deficiencies and violations related to regulated facilities.
- Advises food handlers and restaurant operators on correct methods of food protection.
- Investigates complaints regarding foodborne illness outbreaks, illegal garbage dumping, water quality issues and others.
- Works with and advises other agencies and departments on a variety of environmental health issues.
- Assists with investigations of vector-borne diseases and insect infestations.
- Oversees solid waste facilities for compliance, inspects public recreational facilities and swimming pools.
- Assists with housing inspections to determine health and safety compliance with appropriate laws, regulations and standards.
- Takes food, water or soil samples and may assist in interpreting data.
- Reviews plans for new subdivisions and recommends suitable water and sewage disposal system services as well as changes to the development plan to comply with Environmental

Health regulations and standards.

- Conducts site evaluations for appropriate sewage disposal and/or water sources.
- Performs regulatory activities associated with hazardous materials and hazardous waste handling and storage.
- Completes reports of findings.
- Initiates legal actions, including violation notices, administrative hearings or court orders, resulting from non-compliance with state and local laws, regulations and ordinances.
- Assists with the development of operating rules and ordinances.
- May conduct educational meetings with the public as needed.
- Testifies in court as expert witness.
- May provide lead training and direction as requested.
- 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 various field 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:

- Environmental Health, chemical, biological, physical, and environmental sciences.
- Basic principles and practices of environmental health and regulatory requirements pertaining to hazardous materials and waste management.
- Sampling techniques and standards.
- Computers and software used in environmental health inspections, investigations and reporting.
- Functions and operations of organizations and agencies that interface with environmental health programs and issues.
- Methods and procedures of investigation, inspection, and compliance related to environmental health program oversight.

Ability and willingness to:

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

- Operate a variety of office equipment and computers.
- Establish and maintain cooperative working relationships.
- Provide lead direction and training.
- Represent the Health Department to the public in a professional manner.
- Maintain confidentiality.

Training and Experience:

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

Two (2) years experience performing the duties of an Environmental Specialist II.

Special Requirements:

- Possession of a valid California Driver's License.
- Possession of a valid Environmental Health Registration issued by the California Department of Public Health.
- Some positions may require special training and/or certification as necessary.