

Erie County Health Department
Erie County Community Health Center
Job Posting #2024-80
Equal Opportunity Employer

Position: Registered Environmental Health Specialist (REHS)/Environmental Health Specialist in Training (EHSIT)

Division: Environmental Health

Contact Person: Kari Swenson, Human Resources

Salary: Commensurate with experience (EHSIT Range: \$24.00-\$28.50 & REHS Range: \$30.00-\$35.00)

Working Hours: Full Time; 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday - Evenings, weekends, & holidays may be required. Based on Agency need & emergent issues.

Posting Opens: Thursday, October 3, 2024

Posting Closes: Tuesday, December 31, 2024, at 4:30 p.m. or until filled

Qualifications

- Environmental Health Specialist in Training (EHSIT) certification or Registered Environmental Health Specialist (REHS) certification with the Ohio Department of Health under Chapter 4736 of the Ohio Revised Code.
- Bachelors of Science: Environmental Health, Biology (Bacteriology), Chemistry, Microbiology or Epidemiology.
- Maintains a Pest Control Operators License via the Ohio Department of Agriculture
- Valid Ohio driver's license, current certificate of vehicle insurance, and access to reliable transportation to all assigned work locations.
- National Incident Management System (NIMS)/Incident Command System (ICS) 100.c, 700.b, and 200.c certifications within one month of employment

Major Responsibilities

This position will require the consultation, instruction, investigation, inspection, evaluation, field sampling and testing, enforcement, and technical or administrative duties requiring specialized knowledge and skills in practice of environmental health science. Works closely with other internal divisions and external service providers to prevent the spread of disease, promote health and protect the public from harm. Actively participates in organizational quality improvement projects and other workgroups to advance the mission and vision of the department. This position requires continual review and implementation of current laws, rules, and standards.

Essential Functions

Under general supervision and/or as part of the Environmental Health team, performs the following functions within the framework of the Erie County Health Department and the Erie County Community Health Center's provision of the core functions and essential services of public health:

- Conducts inspections, investigations, and evaluates compliance with local, state, and federal rules/laws for the following program areas: food protection, swimming pools, schools, private water systems, sewage treatment systems, tattoo and body art, solid and infectious waste, and others. Investigation of potential public health problems in the areas of nuisance control, vector control, food safety, swimming pools, housing, rabies, and other environmental areas.
- Collects and processes water samples for analysis for recreational water parameters and potable water sources under the direction of the Erie County Health Department Regional Response Water Laboratory criteria/rules.
- Provides consultative expertise and promotes good environmental health/sanitation practices to license holders, operators, community groups, and the public to mitigate environmental issues and to provide education on the prevention of public health hazards.
- Writes detailed reports of environmental health and sanitation inspections and maintains electronic and paper record systems.
- Reviews plans for proposed development subject to public health regulations and issues licenses and permits.
- Makes recommendations for improvements to environmental health programs.
- Provides specialized and/or technical agency and program specific information that requires limited interpretation of established policies, procedures and other relevant sources to internal and/or external customers.
- Greets and directs clients and performs intra/inter-agency referrals.
- Follows established public health medical records policies and procedures as well as the State and Federal laws that govern the release of health care information.

- Duplicates, collates, scans, assembles, and files materials as requested.
- Relates public health science skills to the Core Public Health Functions and Ten Essential Services of Public Health.
- Provides public health information and data with individuals, community groups, other agencies, internal customers, and the public about physical, behavioral, environmental, social, economic and other issues affecting the public's health.
- Adheres to Occupational Safety and Health Administration standards relevant to job duties, such as exposure to bloodborne pathogens.
- Must follow all safety policies and procedures to ensure an accident-free workplace.
- Provides administrative and technical support to Agency activities related to development and implementation of community health assessment, planning, program, and policy development and implementation activities.
- Adheres to ethical principles in the collection, maintenance, use, and dissemination of data and information.
- Maintains, updates, and uses computerized data management systems and utilizes informatics to improve program operations.
- Collaborates in the development of and provides technical and administrative support to Agency's quality improvement performance management, and evaluation activities.
- Answers telephones; screens call, responds to inquiries and/or refers callers to appropriate agencies or divisions.
- Under general supervision, composes, drafts, types and/or word processes, proofreads and edits documents, contracts, and/or correspondence to ensure these conform to the appropriate use of the English language and established procedures.
- Processes mail and email by attaching related correspondence or information before forwarding, responding to mail when appropriate; respond to mail that can be handled personally; identifies priority and/or time-sensitive matters; and maintains security and confidentiality.
- Utilizes appropriate methods for interacting effectively and professionally with persons of all ages and from diverse cultural, socioeconomic, educational, racial, and ethnic backgrounds, sexual orientations, lifestyles and physical abilities.
- Adheres to ethical principles and Erie County Health Department policy in the collection, maintenance, use and dissemination of data and information.
- Performs all administrative, technical activities related to the Environmental Health Division and/or program purchasing according to Agency policies and procedures.
- Performs public health emergency response duties as assigned and consistent with job classification and training provided, in response to threats to the public's health.
- Participates in Agency and community emergency response training and drills in support of disaster preparedness consistent with job classification.
- This position will be responsible for using quality improvement (QI) and performance management (PM) processes and/or techniques to improve the effectiveness of the public health programs. This includes, but is not limited to: creating, implementing, and evaluating performance standards and identifying, implementing, and assessing program quality improvement processes.
- Employee goals and objectives need to be aligned with the Agency's goals and objectives listed within the Agency's Strategic Plan.
- Assumes responsibility for own professional growth and development by pursuing education, participating in professional committees and work groups and contributing to a work environment where continual improvements in practice are pursued.
- Performs other duties as assigned consistent with job classification.
- Greets visitors in a friendly, competent, professional and informed manner.
- Eases any concerns or distress visitors may exhibit.
- Responds to questions with timely, accurate and complete information.
- Answers and redirects incoming calls as appropriate.
- Follows all regulations and requirements pertaining to public health, federally qualified health center (FQHC), and Agency policies toward the workplace.

Special Requirements

- Treats others with courtesy and respect in all interactions.
- Responds with flexibility to changing needs.
- Manages multiple tasks and deadlines.
- Supports and promotes the Agency's vision, mission, and core values.
- Knowledge of rules and regulations (developed after employment).
- Knowledge of Agency personnel policies and procedures (developed after employment).
- Knowledge of the core functions and essential services of public health.
- Knowledge of general office principles and practices.
- Knowledge of software applications relative to the position assignment.
- Knowledge of basic accounting and mathematics.

- Knowledge of proper English grammar, usage, and spelling.
- Knowledge of action tracking on specific work assignments or other items related to work position.
- Ability to keep accurate reports and records.
- Organizational skills.
- Requires a self-starter with the ability to work both independently and as a team member in a professional environment.
- Good natured with a positive attitude; able to perform under pressure.
- Ability to interact effectively and in a supportive manner with visitors, stakeholders, and public peers.
- Always courteous and respectful regardless of race, creed, family and/or economic situation.
- Bilingual language skills a plus.
- Ability to use good judgment and persistence in overcoming challenges, addressing conflicts and solving problems.
- Effective oral and written communication skills, including phone skills and etiquette.
- Attention to detail, and adherence to established policies and procedures required.
- A problem solver, with the ability to organize and prioritize responsibilities.
- Is flexible, and able to embrace and implement change.
- Working knowledge of Windows personal computer, Microsoft Word and Excel.
- Knowledge and understanding of Patient Centered Medical Homes (PCMH) process.
- Knowledge and understanding of public health accreditation process.
- Criminal background verification required.
- Ability to time budget in areas of workforce development and Agency duties.

Due to the need for all Health Department personnel to respond to public health emergencies, the employee must be assessed for his/her ability to meet the physical demands of performing the following activities:

- Engage in the following movements: climbing, balancing, stooping, kneeling, crouching, reaching, standing, walking, lifting, fingering, grasping, feeling and writing and repetitive motions.
- Must be able to be fitted and wear NIOSH 95 mask. (Requires the elimination of facial hair/beard.)
- Exert up to 50 pounds of force frequently, and/or a negligible amount of force constantly to move objects.
- Hearing ability sufficient enough to communicate with others effectively in person and over the phone.
- Ability to hear and respond to internal or external emergency or evacuation alarms.
- Visual ability must be sufficient enough to read typewritten documents, computer screen and drive a car.

If unable to demonstrate these abilities based upon a standardized, objective assessment performed by external occupational health professionals, all reasonable accommodations will be made, in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and any other applicable Federal and Ohio law.

Working Conditions

- General office setting in health department facilities, as well as occasionally in community sites including clients' homes and workplaces.
- Work performed in the community is sometimes subject to conditions that range from inclement weather to dangerous conditions such as snow/ice, cold, heat, noise, wetness/humidity, vibration, sudden temperature changes, and poor illumination at the job site or due to travel on the job. Travel to and from off-site locations may subject worker to increased risk of driving hazards. Community locations may subject worker to communicable diseases, insects and other disease vectors, toxins, hazardous materials, chemicals and animals.
- In all settings, employees in this classification may occasionally need to relate to members of the public who exhibit challenging atypical or hostile behaviors and/or communication.
- May include alternate sites, temporary locations and/or multiple locations depending on the public health emergency.

Equipment Used

Including, but not limited to computer, fax, copier, scanner, calculator, multi-line telephone, cell phone, camera, video recorder, public health and medical equipment and supplies related to duties, and personal vehicle.

Bloodborne Pathogen Risk Code: None Low Medium High

Qualified Applicants

Qualified applicants should visit www.eriecohealthohio.com where current job postings can be viewed, and an application is available to complete. A completed Erie County Health Department employment application must be date/time stamped in the Human Resources Office prior to 4:30 p.m. on December 31, 2024. EOE/AA/ADA

Approved for Content & Posting _____



Erie County Health Commissioner

Date _____

10.04.24