

**GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF CLASS**

The INDUSTRIAL HYGIENIST 1, under the guidance of a skilled Industrial Hygienist 2, conducts on-site health evaluations of selected workplaces covered by the Oregon Safe Employment Act to determine if the employer is providing a safe and healthful workplace in compliance with State occupational health regulations.

**DISTINGUISHING FEATURES**

This is the first of a four-level series. This class is distinguished from the higher levels by the guidance and training received from Industrial Hygienists 2 who are proficient in the enforcement of occupational health laws. Employees in this class receive guidance in conducting inspections of selected workplaces. Employees receive training and information concerning hazard recognition and health and safety rules, laws, and regulations. The training period is determined by the agency based on the employee's background and level of proficiency as assignments increase in difficulty. Upon completion of the training and successfully meeting minimum qualifications for the next class, employees in this class are placed in the next higher level.

**DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

- 1.**On-Site Preactivities.** Typical tasks: reviews and evaluates technical literature and standards specific to the type of work process to be evaluated; reviews and evaluates the employer's firm file and occupational injury and illness records; determines and prepares the types of measuring equipment necessary to document employee exposure and hazard severities; determines the types of protective equipment required to ensure personal safety.
- 2.**Health Hazard Evaluations.** Typical tasks: conducts on-site evaluations of occupational workplaces, under the direction of an experienced Industrial Hygienist 2, to identify and evaluate the presence of health hazards; conducts follow-up evaluations to determine if violations cited during the initial evaluation have been corrected.
- 3.**Sampling.** Typical tasks: learns to use various types of air, heat, light, and sound monitoring and measuring instruments; learns to analyze measurements to determine level of employee exposure to hazardous substances compared to allowable exposure levels; learns to calibrate and maintain instruments used during evaluations.
- 4.**Closing Conferences.** Typical tasks: discusses evaluation results with the employer and employee representatives; describes hazards and, if possible, explains methods for controlling hazardous conditions; negotiates compliance times for correction of violations; explains employer and employee rights and responsibilities under the Oregon Safe Employment Act; notifies employer of penalty assessment.
- 5.**Postinspection Activities.** Typical tasks: documents, in written report form, employee exposures to health hazards and employer violations; determines a monetary penalty assessment based on the severity of the violation and recommends the type of citation to be sent to the employer.

**RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHERS**

Employees in this class are in daily contact with key management personnel and employers at workplaces and are expected to encourage and motivate them to develop and maintain effective safety and health programs. They are also in contact with chemical manufacturers to obtain health hazard information and with other personnel in the occupational health field to discuss new technology in hazard recognition and control.

**SUPERVISION RECEIVED**

Employees in this class receive guidance throughout the training period from both the Industrial Hygienists providing the training and the immediate supervisor. Work is reviewed on a daily basis by the immediate supervisor for accuracy and completeness.

Employees in this class use Oregon Safe Employment Law, Workers' Compensation Law, Occupational Safety and Health Act regulations, Administrative Rules, and various safety guidelines and manuals to interpret health hazard violations. A schedule developed by the agency is used to determine severity and amount of employee exposure to a hazard. Application of this schedule results in a monetary fine that the employer must pay.

**GENERAL INFORMATION**

Positions are found in an agency providing a regulatory function and require the willingness to work within the environment associated with the position's purpose. They require the willingness to climb steep terrain, steps, and ladders and to kneel, stoop, and crouch while conducting on-site evaluations. Positions also require the willingness to wear protective equipment against dust, chemicals, noise, and/or temperature extremes.

**KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES (KSA)**

Basic knowledge of industrial toxicology; epidemiology; ventilation design; engineering control design; biochemistry; organic, inorganic, analytical, and physical chemistry; physics; industrial hygiene sampling and analysis; and industrial processes.

Ability to learn the techniques, procedures, and instruments used in conducting health evaluations of workplaces.

Ability to learn about modern developments, principles, and practices of occupational safety and health as related to the recognition, evaluation, and control or elimination of occupational safety and health hazards.

Ability to learn about the Federal Occupational Safety and Health Act and the Oregon Safe Employment Act and their application.

Ability to learn about management principles as they relate to occupational safety and health.

Ability to review and evaluate data gathered from on-site inspections to determine if employer is in compliance with State occupational health regulations.

Ability to write technical reports describing health violations and hazards found in the workplace.

Ability to communicate orally to discuss evaluation results, negotiate compliance times, penalty assessments, and to obtain information.

Ability to effectively deal with people who are nervous, and often angry, about having their workplace inspected.

Ability to take instructions and guidance from other Occupational Health Specialists.

Ability to learn and interpret complicated laws, technical rules, and regulations.

Ability to learn to operate and maintain instruments used to monitor levels of hazardous substances.

Ability to determine monetary penalty assessments and type of citation to be issued.

Ability to climb steep terrain, steps, and ladders and kneel, stoop, and crouch while conducting on-site evaluations.

**NOTE:** The KNOWLEDGE and SKILLS are required for initial consideration. ABILITIES may be required for initial consideration, at any time during the selection process, or during a trial service period as a final stage of the selection process. Some duties performed by positions in this class may require different KSA's. No attempt is made to describe every KSA required for **all** positions in this class. Additional KSA requirements will be explained on the recruiting announcement.

Adopted 1/90

Revised

Examples of work are typical of duties assigned to this class. No attempt is made to describe every duty performed by all positions in this class.