



## **JOB ANNOUNCEMENT LAKE COUNTY**

**JOB TITLE:** Environmental Health Specialist I  
**DEPARTMENT:** Lake County Public Health Agency  
**SUPERVISOR TITLE:** Director of Environmental Health

### **FUNCTION OR PURPOSE OF THIS POSITION:**

Lake County Public Health Agency (LCPHA), an EOE employer, seeks a full-time Environmental Health Specialist I. This is an experienced professional position within the Lake County Environmental Health Program. This position works in all general environmental health programs including but not limited to; Retail Food, Schools and Child Care, Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems, Water Quality, Air Quality, Healthy Homes, Radon, Blood Lead, Waste Tires, Environmental Planning and emergency response etc. This employee serves as a consultant and educator to elected County and City officials, Lake County Board of Health, industry partners, other government agencies and members of the public. This position performs a variety of duties to help prevent the spread of disease, mitigate health risks and ensure compliance with all rules and regulations in the area of environmental health and safety. This position requires the ability to speak and write fluent English; a bilingual English/Spanish person is preferred. He or she will report to the Director of Environmental Health.

This position pays a competitive salary, depending upon experience. This is a full-time exempt position that is eligible for benefits. This position is funded by Lake County, and Colorado and Federal funds. If the funding is reduced or discontinued, this position may be reduced or discontinued.

Health begins where you live, learn, work and play!

### **ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS - Essential and other important responsibilities and duties may include, but are not limited to, the following:**

- Conducts health inspections in accordance with federal, state, and local regulations of schools, childcares, retail food establishments, temporary events, septic systems(OWTS), damaged structures, construction sites, emergency shelters and/or others.
- Conducts plan reviews and pre-operational inspections as required at schools, childcares, retail food establishment, temporary events, emergency shelters or other structures, and of septic systems(OWTS).
- Issues permits and licenses for all environmental programs including; retail food establishments, temporary events, septic systems, installer contractors and septic pumpers and cleaners.
- Works with the schools, childcares, retail food industry and the public to reduce environmental health-related foodborne illness and health and safety risks.

- Performs investigations of public complaints related to food safety, health and safety of schools and childcares, ground water and air quality violations, failing septic systems, illegal dumping, other etc.
- Conducts well permit searches and other planning and zoning inquiries as necessary.
- Investigate public nuisance complaints for severity, danger, disease transmission and general authenticity and take appropriate corrective action including possible citation or closure.
- Educate public on a variety of environmental issues including; food safety, ground water protection, well water testing, radon, healthy homes, lead, air-quality, mold, pests (mosquitos, ticks, bedbugs, rodents) and zoonotic diseases (rabies, hanta virus, plague, West Nile).
- Evaluate level of compliance in numerous areas of regulatory oversight; responding when appropriate by issuing warnings, general orders, citations, civil penalties, initiating hearings or possible prosecution.
- Conducts epidemiological investigations related to illness outbreaks and complaints and trains in public health/environmental health related emergency preparedness and response.
- Conducts epidemiological investigations related to school and childcare illness outbreaks and complaints and trains in pandemic or illness related emergency preparedness.
- Actively serves on and participates with various committees and professional groups dealing with environmental health regulations, community safety and emergency preparedness.
- Travel and attend environmental health trainings, meetings, workshops and conferences as needed.
- Fosters teamwork and open communication among staff; participates in office meetings, team-building activities and trainings.
- Performs other duties, as assigned.

### **Minimum Education**

To be eligible for this position, a candidate must meet the criteria as follows:

A Bachelor's degree in public health, environmental health, environmental science, natural science(s), or a closely related field. Must possess at least 30 semester hours in natural, environmental or biological science courses **and** possession of the [NEHA REHS/RS credential](#)

### **Qualifications**

- **Must possess the [NEHA REHS/RS credential](#)**
- Superior verbal and written communication skills and effective listening skills.
- Ability to efficiently plan and schedule, with strong organizational skills. Needs a keen attention to detail and ability to complete quality work amidst multiple, competing priorities.

- Ability to add, subtract, multiply, and divide in all units of measure, using whole numbers, common fractions, and decimals. Ability to compute rate, ratio, and percent and to draw and interpret bar graphs.
- Ability to work as part of a team. Effectively communicate and work with co-workers, clients, industry partners, other government agencies, and the general public.
- Ability to assess situations and make prudent and appropriate decisions; ability to apply conflict resolution and problems solving skills in order to minimize negative personal impact.
- **Strong ability conduct health inspections while interacting with a diverse workforce, read and explain regulations, make professional judgement calls and enforce rules and regulations.**

### **Special professional and/or job-related requirements**

- Takes personal responsibility to provide exceptional customer service in order to promote and maintain a positive public health and environmental health image, constructive working environment, and foster pride and professionalism in the workplace and community.
- The employee normally performs the duty assignments according to his or her own judgment, requesting supervisory assistance only when necessary. Projects and daily work are managed with little oversight; however special assignments and significant work products may be reviewed throughout completion.
- Ability to understand, interpret, and apply statutes and regulations pertaining to ground water protections, water quality control, air quality, retail food safety and the health and safety of schools and childcares in Colorado.
- Interactions at this level usually impact the implementation of policies and recommendations regarding policy development. Contacts may involve interpretation of how policies are implemented and may require discussion and the support of controversial positions or the negotiation of sensitive issues or important presentations. *During interactions on policy implementation, contacts may also involve stressful, negative interactions requiring high levels of tact and the ability to respond to aggressive interpersonal interactions.*
- Excellent observation skills and the ability to identify hazards and risk. Excellent collaboration skills with the ability to establish and maintain strong and effective working relationships with coworkers, industry partners, government agencies, and the public.
- Ability to meet physical mental and emotional requirements of the position which may include stressful conditions in relation to enforcement of regulations, laws, ordinances, etc.
- Proficiency in Microsoft Office (e.g. Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and Outlook)
- TB test, if not current, within 30 days of starting job.
- Completion of the FDA Program standard #2 training curriculum for retail food safety inspectors within 18 months of hire.

### **Required Certificates or licenses**

- Valid Driver's License.
- Registered Environmental Health Specialist (REHS)

**Travel:** May require some in-state travel for trainings. Must possess and maintain a **valid Colorado Driver's License** and the appropriate level of personal vehicle insurance.

**Work Conditions:** The majority of this position's duties are performed in a protected, indoor environment. The incumbent may be exposed to some noise (electrical, mechanical or human) on an occasional basis, and other related hazards associated with an office environment. The incumbent may be exposed to seasonal conditions including wet and/or humid and extreme hot/cold temperature changes on an occasional basis. The incumbent may be required to work evenings, and weekends associated with special events, community health fairs and educational classes and large disasters.

**Physical Demands:** While performing the duties of this job, the employee is regularly required to use hands to finger, handle, or feel objects, tools, or controls and talk, hear and smell. The employee frequently is required to stand, walk, and reach with hands and arms. The employee is frequently required to sit, stoop, kneel, crouch and lift objects up to 45lbs.

### **EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS DUTIES**

Employee responds, as required, to support public health emergencies, incidents and events. Employee participates in all exercises and drills on emergency preparedness, as required. Completes trainings identified as appropriate for this level employee.

**To Apply:** When submitting your Resume/application, make sure you explain how your experience adequately address the job requirements of this position. To apply, please send a cover letter, resume and list of 3 professional references to [HR@co.lake.co.us](mailto:HR@co.lake.co.us)

**Closing Date:** Open Until Filled.