

New York State Department of Civil Service
DIVISION OF CLASSIFICATION & COMPENSATION

Classification Standard

Occ. Code 1620100

Environmental Radiation Specialist 1, Grade 18	1620100
Environmental Radiation Specialist 2, Grade 23	1620200
Environmental Radiation Specialist 3, Grade 27	1620300

Brief Description of Class Series

Environmental Radiation Specialists perform pathway analyses and dose assessments for proposed and existing discharges of radioactive material; review environmental reports for radiological impacts and prepare recommendations; review and revise regulations to conform to federal and state laws and regulations governing radioactive discharges and disposal; perform field investigations, including radiation surveys and sample collections and analyses; and provide technical support to the State radiological emergency preparedness program.

These positions are found only at the Department of Environmental Conservation.

Distinguishing Characteristics

Environmental Radiation Specialist 1: full performance level; performs radiological impact assessments, inspections and enforcement actions of active sites seeking permits for release or emission of radiation and legacy radiologically contaminated sites.

Environmental Radiation Specialist 2: first supervisory level; oversees the work of Environmental Radiation Specialists 1 assigned to a unit; trains subordinates in appropriate inspection techniques, the proper use of radiation survey and air flow monitoring instruments and the application of various sampling techniques; performs radiological impact assessments, inspections and enforcement actions of active sites seeking permits for release or emission of radiation and legacy radiologically contaminated sites, oversees major permit requests, inspections of active facilities, and large clean-up projects of legacy contaminated sites.

Environmental Radiation Specialist 3: second supervisory level; leads and oversees the work of various units managed by Environmental Radiation Specialists 2.

Illustrative Duties

Environmental Radiation Specialist 1

Reviews reports and evaluates data on radiological contamination in the environment.

Reviews work plans for radiological investigations, monitoring programs, and site remediation.

Develops recommendations for further action for supervisory review.

Prepares correspondence commenting on or conveying the approval of plans and permits.

Observes field remediation operations.

Measures radiation levels and installs and maintains radiation monitoring devices.

Collects samples of environmental media, packages samples and ships to laboratories for analysis.

Performs gamma spectroscopy analysis on materials with unidentified radioactive sources.

Uses and maintains radiation detection and flow rate monitoring instruments.

Selects and performs laboratory analyses for radioactive contaminants in environmental samples, exposure pathway analyses, and radiation dose projections.

Evaluates resulting radiological data and writes reports of field and laboratory work.

Issues new permits, regulating the type and amount of permitted radiological emissions or releases, their impact on the environment, and the required steps to be taken to mitigate this impact.

Environmental Radiation Specialist 2

Performs any of the duties listed above, as needed.

Supervises and trains Environmental Radiation Specialists 1, Environmental Radiation Specialist Trainees and other staff as appropriate.

Supervises the preparation and promulgation of regulations related to siting criteria of disposal facilities and compliance with the Low-Level Radioactive Waste Act.

Oversees a permitting program to regulate discharges of radioactive material.

Reviews selected applications and all permits prepared by subordinates prior to approval.

Provides project management and radiological expertise for the agency's review of proposed sites.

Reviews and revises regulations to conform to federal and State laws and regulations governing radioactive discharges and disposal.

Reviews reports, data collection results, and proposed actions prepared by subordinates.

Provides the necessary expertise, as needed, in enforcement actions carried out by the agency.

Participates in public hearings and meetings on proposed regulations, radiological impacts, and technical evaluations of permit applications.

Environmental Radiation Specialist 3

Performs any of the duties listed for Environmental Radiation Specialists 1 and 2 above, as needed.

Reviews and monitors the agency's rules and regulations for the Prevention and Control of Environmental Pollution by Radioactive Materials (6 NYCRR 380), and any new federal regulations for the control of radioactive materials.

Provides recommendations for revisions to 6 NYCRR 380 regarding radiation control policies and goals.

Supervises the activities of staff assigned to monitor, on site, the construction and operation of low-level radioactive waste facilities.

Oversees the radiation monitoring systems and emergency response program for low-level waste.

Provides technical support to the State's Citizen Advisory Committee on Permanent Disposal Facilities Siting and Disposal Method Selection.

Plans and directs pre-construction environmental radiation monitoring on and near the site of low-level radioactive waste disposal facilities.

Supervises the development and promulgation of regulations governing closure and post-closure plans for low-level radioactive waste facilities.

Manages staffing, training, budgeting, program planning, staff evaluations, and day-to-day supervisory activities of the radiation section.

Minimum Qualifications

Environmental Radiation Specialist 1

Open Competitive: satisfactory completion of one year of service as an Environmental Radiation Specialist Trainee 2; or bachelor's degree or higher in biological, environmental, or physical science, chemistry, chemical, environmental, or nuclear engineering, health physics, nuclear medicine technology, mathematics, civil engineering, or mechanical engineering and two years of experience in radiological science, radiological engineering, or nuclear engineering.

Substitution: a master's degree in radiological, nuclear, or environmental engineering, or health physics may substitute one year of required experience.

Environmental Radiation Specialist 2

Open Competitive: a bachelor's or higher-level degree in biological, environmental, or physical science, radiological or nuclear engineering, chemistry, or nuclear medicine technology, and three years of professional experience in radiological science, radiological engineering, or nuclear engineering. One year of this experience must have included the direct supervision of health physics or radiation safety staff.

Substitution: a master's degree in radiological, nuclear, or environmental engineering; or in health physics may be substituted for one year of the required experience.

Promotion: one year of service as an Environmental Radiation Specialist 1.

Environmental Radiation Specialist 3

Promotion: one year of service as an Environmental Radiation Specialist 2.

NOTE: Classification Standards illustrate the nature, extent and scope of duties and responsibilities of the classes they describe. Standards cannot and do not include all of the work that might be appropriately performed by a class. The minimum qualifications above are those which were required for appointment at the time the Classification Standard was written. For current information on minimum qualifications please contact the Division of Staffing Services.

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