

State of California—Health and Human Services Agency
California Department of Public Health

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COURSES SPECIFIC TO ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

Applicants who wish to qualify for admittance to the environmental health specialist examination under section 106635 III or IV, California Health and Safety Code need specific environmental health courses. These courses are in addition to the basic science requirements and reduce the experience requirements to nine or six months.

The public administration or environmental health administration course must be at least three semester or four quarter units and may include such basic topic areas as program planning, personnel administration, financing and budgeting, evaluative techniques, supervision and management, morale, organization, politics, public policy, bureaucracy, public relations, and administrative law and processes.

The epidemiology course must be at least three semester or four quarter units and should cover historic and current concepts and principles of Epidemiology, interaction of all agents, host, and environmental factors of communicable and non-communicable diseases, and evaluation of methods for prevention and control of disease.

The statistics course must be at least three semester or four quarter units and should include such topics as central tendency and variability, probability, normal distribution, random sampling, hypothesis testing, chi-squared, simple correlation and regression, and analysis of variance.

The ten semester units or fifteen quarter units of environmental health science coursework must be completed in one or more of the following subject areas: water quality, waste management, food and consumer protection, housing and institution sanitation, vector control, recreational health, air quality, milk and dairy products, occupational health, electromagnetic radiation, noise control, toxicology, soil science, and land use development. The course content of the selected areas of study must relate to the field of environmental health as practiced by a Registered Environmental Health Specialist.

If the course description in the catalog does not clearly indicate the required course content listed above, you must submit a course outline or syllabus. This includes courses you have already completed and the courses you are planning to enroll in. After we receive the course outline, a determination of course acceptability will be made.