How to Become Registered As An
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SPECIALIST

Registration as an Environmental Health Specialist requires three steps:

1. **Education** - minimum a Bachelor’s degree from a four year college including 30 semester units of basic science coursework (courses must be for “science” or “biology” majors);
2. **Training and Experience** - up to 18 months depending on education typically at a local county environmental health department;
3. **Comprehensive Exam** - held three times a year in Sacramento and Los Angeles.

Qualified college graduates must apply to the California Department of Public Health and have their transcripts evaluated by CPS HR Consulting before applying for a trainee position. State and county environmental health agencies and private industry hire REHSs. Both California Environmental Health Association (http://www.ceha.org/jobs.html) and California Conference of Directors of Environmental Health (https://www.ccdeh.com/jobs.html) list employment opportunities statewide.

Five state universities currently offer Bachelor’s and/or Master’s degrees in Environmental Health: California State University (CSU) at Fresno, CSU Northridge, CSU San Bernardino, University of California at Los Angeles and San Diego State University.

Applicants will need their domestic college transcripts evaluated by CPS HR Consulting (http://www.cpshr.us/exams/EnvHealth/index.html) and apply to the REHS Program. The process generally takes 4 weeks. Course specific questions should be directed to Kimberly Drapeza (916) 471-3338 or kdrapeza@cpshr.us. CPS HR Consulting will accept college transcripts in electronic form directly from the college or university using this email address: ehsmailbox@cpshr.us

Foreign students will need a “course by course” evaluation of their college transcripts from a credential evaluation service to submit with the application to CDPH -REHS a list of credential evaluation services is available at the REHS website.

Once you’ve had your transcripts evaluated, CDPH will issue a *Letter of Eligibility*. This letter will allow you to apply for any open position as an EHS Trainee and will outline the experience and training you need to qualify for the examination.

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section Certified Under</th>
<th>Total Experience Time</th>
<th>Training Hours For First Three Basic Elements</th>
<th>Training Hours For Second Three Secondary Elements</th>
<th>Total Training Hours</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sec. 106635 I</td>
<td>18 Months</td>
<td>120 Each = 360 Total</td>
<td>80 Each = 240 Total</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sec. 106635 II</td>
<td>12 Months</td>
<td>90 Each = 270 Total</td>
<td>60 Each = 180 Total</td>
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<td>Sec. 106635 III</td>
<td>9 Months</td>
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<td>40 Each = 120 Total</td>
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<td>Sec. 106635 IV</td>
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<td>27 Each = 81 Total</td>
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Visit the REHS web site www.cdph.ca.gov/REHS for more information on the profession. If you have other questions call (916) 210-8541 or e-mail Veronica Malloy Veronica.Malloy@cdph.ca.gov

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