

Guidelines for Preliminary Review of Education

These guidelines are designed to help applicants identify the college courses that will satisfy the basic science requirements identified in California Health and Safety Code, Section 106635. The education required for certification as an Environmental Health Specialist Trainee (EHST) and to receive your letter of eligibility includes a minimum of a Bachelor's degree with 30 semester or 45 quarter units of basic science.

In order to be qualified to take the REHS exam you must complete your training and experience and meet course specific requirements including a course in: general chemistry, general biology, general microbiology, general physics or organic chemistry, and college algebra or calculus.

STEP ONE

BASIC REQUIREMENTS

1. Do you possess a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university?
Yes- continue
No – A bachelor's degree is required to be certifiable and eligible to work as an EHS trainee.
2. Have you completed 30-semester or 45-quarter units of basic science courses?
Yes- continue to step two
No – A minimum of 30 semester units of science are required to be certifiable and work as an EHS trainee.

SPECIFIC COURSE CURRICULUM

OPTION I- 30 semester or 45 quarter basic science units including the following courses:

Calculus or College Algebra
General Biology Lecture/Lab
General Chemistry Lecture/Lab
General Microbiology Lecture/Lab
General Organic Chemistry Lecture/Lab – **OR** – General Physics
Lecture/Lab

OPTION II- 45 semester or 68 quarter basic science units including the following courses:

Calculus or College Algebra
General Biology*
General Chemistry*
General Microbiology*
General Organic Chemistry*
General Physics*

*Three of the required science courses shall include a laboratory

You will be certifiable as an EHS trainee and receive your letter of eligibility if you have completed a Bachelor's degree and 30 semester or 45 quarter units of basic science; however you will be required to complete any missing coursework before you are eligible to take the exam.

STEP TWO

How to determine if your courses meet the requirements.

1. Is the course required as a core course in the subject major?
Yes- course likely approved
No- next question

2. Is the course identified in the California Articulation Numbering (CAN) system as meeting the criteria for a core science course (see course description in college catalog).
Yes- course likely approved
No- next question

3. Do the course pre-requisites include two years of high school algebra and chemistry?
Yes- course likely approved
No- next question

4. Is the course a remedial class covering the content of a secondary school course?
Yes- course disapproved
No- next question

5. Is the course less than 3 semester or 4 quarter units?
Yes- course disapproved
No- further specific review required by the Environmental Health Specialist Registration Committee.