TITLE 896 BOARD OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SPECIALISTS

ARTICLE 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Rule 1. Competency Standards

896 IAC 1-1-1 Definitions

Authority: IC 25-32-1-8
Affected: IC 25-32

Sec. 1. For the purpose of this rule, establishing standards for the competent practice of an environmental health specialist, the following definitions apply:

(1) "Board" means the Indiana board of environmental health specialists.

(2) "Practitioner" means a person who is registered as an environmental health specialist under IC 25-32.

(Board of Environmental Health Specialists; 896 IAC 1-1-1; filed Aug 19, 1985, 4:00 p.m.: 9 IR 63; filed Oct 4, 1991, 5:00 p.m. 15 IR 108; readopted filed Jul 10, 2001, 2:58 p.m.: 24 IR 4239)

896 IAC 1-1-2 Standards of competency

Authority: IC 25-32-1-8
Affected: IC 25-32-1-8

Sec. 2. A practitioner, in the conduct of his or her profession, shall abide by the following standards of competency:

(1) A practitioner shall not willfully perform an act likely to deceive or harm the public's health, safety, or welfare.

(2) A practitioner shall routinely expand his or her professional knowledge, skills, and abilities so as to keep abreast of the new developments and changes in environmental health.

(3) A practitioner shall maintain a broad knowledge of the laws, regulations, ordinances, and standards pertaining to the specific phases of environmental health for which he or she is responsible.

(4) A practitioner shall not engage in unprofessional conduct that is detrimental to the best interests of the public.

(5) A practitioner shall not abet any person to evade a law, regulation, or ordinance pertaining to environmental health.

(6) A practitioner shall not obtain money, goods, services, or any other benefit from any other person who he or she regulates that is intended or could be construed to influence official action.

(7) A practitioner shall comply with the policies, procedures, and requirements of his or her employer, so long as they are not in conflict with any federal, state, or local laws, regulations, or ordinances.

(8) A practitioner who knows of the incompetent or unethical conduct of another practitioner in the practice of environmental health shall report such conduct to the proper authorities.

(9) A practitioner shall not knowingly and willfully commit an act of deceit, misrepresentation, violation of contract, fraud, negligence, professional incompetence, or unethical practice.

(10) A practitioner shall not willfully make or cause to be made any false entry or statement of fact.

(11) A practitioner shall obtain consultation whenever there is a question about an environmental health problem or procedure that is beyond his or her skill or knowledge.

(12) A practitioner shall, whenever the opportunity arises, provide counsel and guidance relating to environmental health, and make every attempt to interpret, promote, and influence the value of environmental health and the importance to the health, safety, and welfare of the public.

(Board of Environmental Health Specialists; 896 IAC 1-1-2; filed Aug 19, 1985, 4:00 p.m.: 9 IR 63; filed Oct 4, 1991, 5:00 p.m. 15 IR 108; readopted filed Jul 10, 2001, 2:58 p.m.: 24 IR 4239)

896 IAC 1-1-3 Establishing competence; peer review

Authority: IC 25-32-1-8
Affected: IC 25-32-1-8

Sec. 3. (a) It shall be the responsibility of the individual practitioner to maintain and improve knowledge, skills, and performance as an environmental health specialist through proper training, continuing education, peer review, and self-assessment. Each practitioner shall be prepared to document, if required by the board, details of these essential components of competency.

(b) The board may make every effort to determine a practitioner's competency on a case by case basis by requiring the following:

(1) A practitioner shall complete a self-assessment questionnaire, as prepared and furnished by the board, and return it to the board within a specific period of time.

(2) A practitioner shall take a written examination or oral examination, or both, related to the state of the art of competent practice in the practitioner's respective discipline.

(c) The board may request a peer review report from a practitioner's supervisor or peers, or both. *(Board of Environmental Health Specialists; 896 IAC 1-1-3; filed Aug 19, 1985, 4:00 p.m.: 9 IR 63; filed Oct 4, 1991, 5:00 p.m. 15 IR 109; readopted filed Jul 10, 2001, 2:58 p.m.: 24 IR 4239)*

Rule 2. Certification, Examination Requirements

896 IAC 1-2-1 Examination; deadline for applications

Authority: IC 25-32-1-8
Affected: IC 25-32-1-3; IC 25-32-1-5

Sec. 1. (a) Each applicant for registration by examination shall submit the following information:

(1) Application fee required by 896 IAC 1-3-2.

(2) Official transcripts, certified by an accredited college or university, recording successful completion of least forty-five (45) quarter hours or thirty (30) semester hours of academic training in the basic physical, chemical, biological, or sanitary sciences.

(3) Two (2) unmounted, duplicate passport-quality photographs taken not earlier than one (1) year prior to the date of application, dated and signed in the applicant's handwriting.

(4) Statement from the appropriate agency in each state where the applicant has been registered, certifying whether or not disciplinary proceedings have ever been initiated or are presently pending against the applicant.

(5) Verification from the supervising employer that the applicant has been employed in the field of environmental health on a full-time basis for at least two (2) years within the preceding five (5) years.

(b) An applicant who:

(1) holds a master's degree in public health with a major in sanitary science or a science degree higher than a baccalaureate; and

(2) meets the science requirements set forth in subsection (a);

is only required to submit verification of one (1) year of full-time employment in the field of environmental health within the preceding five (5) years.

(c) With the exception of the employment requirements, all examination candidates shall have completed registration requirements specified by subsection (a) prior to taking the examination.

(d) All applications and fees for the examination must be received by the board at least forty-five (45) days prior to the examination.

(e) In order to be registered, an applicant is required to pass an examination developed by the National Environmental Health Association (NEHA) and given by the health professions bureau.

(f) In order to pass the examination, an applicant must obtain a score equal to or greater than five-tenths (.5) standard deviation below the national mean score for all candidates who have taken that examination. *(Board of Environmental Health Specialists; 896 IAC 1-2-1; filed Jan 26, 1987, 3:15 p.m.: 10 IR 1275; filed Apr 5, 1990, 2:50 p.m.: 13 IR 1415; filed Oct 26, 1990, 3:10 p.m.: 14 IR 451; filed Jun 24, 1994, 2:00 p.m.: 17 IR 2654; readopted filed Jul 10, 2001, 2:58 p.m.: 24 IR 4239)*

896 IAC 1-2-2 Application for registration by reciprocity

Authority: IC 25-32-1-8
Affected: IC 25-32-1-3; IC 25-32-1-5

Sec. 2. Each applicant for registration by reciprocity shall submit the following information:

(1) Application fee required by 896 IAC 1-3-2.

(2) Official transcripts, certified by an accredited college or university, recording successful completion of least forty-five

(45) quarter hours or thirty (30) semester hours of academic training in the basic physical, chemical, biological, or sanitary sciences.

(3) Official score report from the professional examination service recording a passing score on the registration examination for environmental health specialists.

(4) One (1) unmounted, duplicate passport-quality photograph taken not earlier than one (1) year prior to the date of application, dated and signed in the applicant's handwriting.

(5) Statement from the appropriate agency in each state where the applicant has been registered, certifying whether or not disciplinary proceedings have ever been initiated or are presently pending against the applicant.

(6) Verification from the supervising employer that the applicant has been employed on a full-time basis in the field of environmental health for at least two (2) years within the preceding five (5) years.

(7) An applicant who:

(A) holds a master's degree in public health with a major in sanitary science or a science degree higher than a baccalaureate; and

(B) meets the science requirements set forth in subdivision (2);

is only required to submit verification of one (1) year of full-time employment in the field of environmental health within the preceding five (5) years.

(Board of Environmental Health Specialists; 896 IAC 1-2-2; filed Jun 24, 1994, 2:00 p.m.: 17 IR 2655; readopted filed Jul 10, 2001, 2:58 p.m.: 24 IR 4239)

896 IAC 1-2-3 Information not yet received; effect

Authority: IC 25-32-1-8
Affected: IC 25-32-1-15

Sec. 3. (a) An application may be denied or deferred if any of the required information has not been received.

(b) An applicant who applies for registration under IC 25-32-1-15 bears the burden of proving that the requirements of the state in which the applicant currently is registered are equivalent to those requirements set forth in section 2 of this rule. The applicant shall submit documentation required by section 2 of this rule, as well as any other documentation required by the board to make a determination as to whether the requirements of the other state are equivalent to those set forth in section 2 of this rule.

(Board of Environmental Health Specialists; 896 IAC 1-2-3; filed Jun 24, 1994, 2:00 p.m.: 17 IR 2655; readopted filed Jul 10, 2001, 2:58 p.m.: 24 IR 4239)

Rule 3. Schedule of Fees

896 IAC 1-3-1 Fees (Repealed)

Sec. 1. *(Repealed by Board of Environmental Health Specialists; filed Oct 26, 1990, 3:07 p.m.: 14 IR 451)*

896 IAC 1-3-2 Fees

Authority: IC 25-1-8-2
Affected: IC 25-32-1

Sec. 2. The following fees apply to all registered environmental health specialists and applicants:

Application for registration/issuance	$50
Examination or reexamination	Applicant’s cost to examination service to purchase the examination
Registration renewal (July 31 of odd-numbered years)	$35
Verification of registration	$10
Duplicate registration certificate	$10

(Board of Environmental Health Specialists; 896 IAC 1-3-2; filed Oct 26, 1990, 3:07 p.m.: 14 IR 451; filed Oct 4, 1991, 5:00 p.m.: 15 IR 109; filed Dec 27, 1993, 9:00 a.m.: 17 IR 1006; filed May 20, 1996, 3:00 p.m.: 19 IR 2883; readopted filed Dec 2, 2001,

12:35 p.m.: 25 IR 1346)

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