

## INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE INSPECTOR

Employees in this class are responsible for conducting inspections of industrial work places to detect occupational health hazards in violation of the Occupational Safety and Health Act. Employees conduct random, routine inspections of work places, investigate deaths or injuries, and worker complaints. Recommendations on citations and fines are made to the North Carolina Department of Labor.

### I. DIFFICULTY OF WORK:

Variety and Scope - Employees perform inspections and investigations in a wide variety of work places with a wide variety of occupational health hazards.

Intricacy - Employees perform inspections, and detect hazards; investigate worker complaints and accidents.

Subject Matter Complexity - Employees must have knowledge of the Occupational Safety and Health Act. Must be knowledgeable of industrial processes and potential occupational hazards. Must have knowledge of organic and inorganic chemistry, biochemistry, and physiology, and industrial toxicology in order to determine the severity of a hazardous situation and the dangers of worker overexposure. A thorough knowledge of sampling techniques and procedures in order to maintain a chain of evidence is required. Some understanding of hazard control methods and their effectiveness is required.

Guidelines - Guidelines are generally available on types of hazards inherent to a particular type of industry and sampling techniques. However, hazards are often difficult to identify, and sampling techniques must be adapted to fit the situation.

### II. RESPONSIBILITY:

Nature of Instructions - Employees plan inspection schedule and performs inspections with no instructions from supervisor. Employees seek advice from supervisor on unusual hazards or potential precedent setting situations.

Nature of Review - Inspections and, investigations are carried out independently. Reports are reviewed but primarily to assure consistency of enforcement and completeness of documentation.

Scope of Decisions - Decisions could have adverse effects on individuals, industries, and their workers.

Consequence of Decisions - Recommendations for fines could cause same financial loss to employers. Imminent danger recommendations could cause significant financial losses. 'Decisions concerning the severity of hazards could result in injury or even death to exposed workers.

### III. INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATIONS:

Scope of Contacts - Contacts are made with industrial officials and workers.

Nature and Purpose - Contacts are made with plant managers to explain the OSHA program and to report investigation results to them. Contacts are made with industry employees to question them concerning accidents or work experiences.

### IV. OTHER WORK DEMANDS:

Work Conditions - Must make inspections in a variety of industrial plants whose environments range from good to poor.

Hazards - Exposed to mild and dangerous dusts, fumes, noise conditions, etc., while making inspections and monitoring conditions.

V. JOB REQUIREMENTS:

Knowledges, Skills, and Abilities - A general understanding of introductory statistics. Working knowledge of organic and inorganic chemistry. Working knowledge of biochemistry. Basic understanding of physiology. Working knowledge of industrial toxicology. Considerable knowledge of industrial processes and potential occupational health hazards. Considerable knowledge of industrial hygiene sampling techniques. Ability to gain the confidence of workers in industrial situations. Ability to explain hazards and convince management of the severity of hazards. Ability to maintain a chain of evidence sufficient to prove hazards in hearings or in court.

Minimum Training and Experience Requirements - Graduation from a four-year college or university with a degree in chemistry, physics, industrial hygiene, mechanical engineering, or a closely related curriculum and one year of experience in industrial hygiene inspections; or a master's degree in industrial hygiene with a BS degree in one of the above; or an equivalent combination of training and experience.

Minimum Training and Experience Requirements for an Industrial Hygiene Inspector Trainee Appointment - Graduation from a four-year college or university with a degree in chemistry, physics, industrial hygiene, mechanical engineering, or a closely related curriculum; or a master's degree in industrial hygiene with a BS in a non-related curriculum.

Minimum Training and Experience Requirements for an Industrial Hygiene Apprenticeship Trainee Appointment - Graduation from a four-year college or university with coursework in the sciences

Administering the Industrial Hygiene Inspector Trainee Progression - Engineering graduates start at the six months step of the trainee progression.