

Position Summary

This summary describes the organization, duties, and requirements of a State of Michigan vacancy.

Position Code: INHGNSTEA37R

Civil Service Class and Level: INDUSTRIAL HYGIENIST-E

Working Title (What the agency calls the position): Industrial Hygienist (IH)

Name and Position Code Description of Direct Supervisor: BERJAOUI, ADAM; SAFETY AND HEALTH MANAGER-3

Department/Agency: LEO-LABOR AND ECON OPPORTUNITY

Bureau (Institution, Board, or Commission): Michigan Occupational Safety & Health Administration (MIOSHA)

Division: General Industrial Safety & Health Division (GISHD)

Unit: District #4

Work Location: The IH works from a home office (that is, their home). However, this is a field position that requires the establishment of the "Official Workspace Station" for travel purposes in Washtenaw, Lenawee, Wayne or Monroe County.

Work Coverage Area: Washtenaw, Lenawee, Wayne and Monroe Counties

Hours: Monday – Friday, 8:00 am – 5:00 pm / Work may require early departure, evening work, or occasional weekends as needed.

General Summary of Function/Purpose of Position: The position participates in the state program for the control and prevention of occupational illness and disease by conducting inspections and investigations of potential health hazards in all general industry places of employment, including both the private and public sectors.

Assigned duties and tasks for each duty.

Duty 1: The Industrial Hygienist (IH), with limited supervision, plans/develops strategies and conducts occupational health compliance investigations in manufacturing plants, construction sites, and other places of employment. The IH must have a thorough knowledge of applicable health and safety standards to determine if an employer is in compliance with applicable regulations; knowledge about or know where to find information concerning toxic substances and physical hazards and how they interact with the human body; knowledge of industrial processes and methods commonly used for production of goods and services or the construction of various types of facilities.

- Determines if occupational health hazards exist, the magnitude of the hazard, and what is required to lessen or eliminate the hazard. This requires quantitatively and qualitatively determining the hazard potential associated with worker exposure to toxic materials and physical agents.
- Utilizes professional judgment and specialized knowledge to select appropriate sampling methods and instruments which are capable of measuring toxic substances and materials in question and to apply air sampling techniques and work monitoring methods. These include but are not limited to: air monitoring pumps, containment collection devices, and direct reading instruments; air velocity and air pressure measuring devices; combustible gas and oxygen detectors; halogenated hydrocarbon detectors; dust, mist, and vapor collection equipment; noise measuring equipment; light meters; non-ionizing radiation detectors; heat stress measurement devices, and humidity exposure measuring equipment.
- Effectively communicate verbally the purpose of their investigation, the means that will be utilized to assess potential hazards and the findings of their investigation.
- Conducts follow-up investigations to assure corrective measures have been taken by an employer to eliminate, control, or reduce worker exposure to health hazards.

Duty 2: The IH, with limited supervision, prepares detailed reports pertaining to the investigations.

- Effectively communicate in writing the scope of their investigation, their findings, their conclusions, and recommendations.
- Prepares accurate data sheets describing tests and analysis performed and listing appropriate exposure limits for comparison with actual test results.
- Prepare citations, propose penalties, and determine abatement schedules for identified violations of state standards by public and private employers.

Duty 3: The IH, with limited supervision, analyzes and interprets data collected during an occupational health investigation and identifies specific control measures that can reduce or eliminate occupational health hazards that have been identified.

- Analyzes and interprets injury and illness records, medical data, laboratory and field data obtained from workplace studies and surveys relative to the workers' exposure to airborne contaminants or physical agents.
- Evaluates existing and/or proposed control systems that would involve changes in processes or equipment which would alter the quantity or nature of the contaminants or physical agents released into the work environment, substitution of materials, the application of ventilation techniques, and other controls for the purpose of eliminating hazardous workplace exposures.

Duty 4: The IH must stay current with industrial hygiene technologies and other issues associated to occupational health.

- Reviews existing and current technical literature to maintain up-to-date knowledge and skills relative to occupational health hazards, control equipment, industrial materials and processes, and special analytical and sampling methods used to evaluate workplace hazards.
- Attends and participates in training sessions and professional industrial hygiene group meetings to improve personal knowledge and skills in the practice of industrial hygiene.
- Attends district, division, and agency meetings relating to occupational health to keep informed of staff developments and up-to-date practices in industrial hygiene.

Duty 5: The IH provides information and assistance to the public pertaining to occupational health issues.

- Provides district office support answering phone calls from employees, employers, consultants, attorneys, media contacts, and legislative contacts pertaining to occupational health related issues.
- Provides district office support for assisting walk-in clients/customers pertaining to occupational health issues.

Duty 6: The IH participates in hearings of an informal and formal nature related to occupational health investigations.

- Provides assistance to the district supervisor, regional supervisor, and Assistant Attorney General in preparing for both informal and formal administrative hearings associated with their investigations.
- Provides testimony at both informal and formal hearings pertaining to appealed citations that are associated with their investigations.

Duty 7: The IH assists in the training of IH trainees..

- Provides training and information to IH trainees during actual site investigations.
- Assists in training IH trainees on proper documentation of case files, utilization of the OSHA Information System (OIS) and generate reports.
- Provides training and assistance to IH trainees pertaining to reference source information on industrial processes, toxicological information, and process control technology.

Types of decisions made independently and whom or what those decisions affect: The IH makes frequent decisions pertaining to whether or not occupational hazards are present in the workplace during site a investigation. These decisions affect the worksites being inspected and the employees that work there.

Types of decisions that require the supervisor's review: Investigations are assigned and reviewed by the supervisor. The IH proposes citations and penalties associated with violations identified during the investigation. The citations, penalties, and reports are reviewed and approved by the supervisor.

Physical effort used to perform this job and environmental conditions of this position: This job requires standing, sitting, climbing, stooping, kneeling, crouching, reaching, lifting, carrying, walking, and bending-type physical activities. The IH may be subjected to work in high noise levels, high temperature and humidity, ultraviolet radiation, microwaves, cancer producing agents, carbon monoxide, and other chemical and biological contaminants and physical hazards. The IH may have to work in confined spaces or elevated locations. Protective equipment may be required.

The essential functions of this position: The essential duties are conducting occupational health investigations to identify potential or existing health hazards in violation of occupational health standards; outline required or recommended control measures and issue citations where investigative findings confirm rule violations; and promote the application of industrial health programs to improve the health and well being of all workers.

The function of the position's work area and how it fits into that function: The function of the work area is to prevent occupational illness and disease and to improve the work environment through investigation in order to identify and evaluate potential health hazards and to control such hazards through the enforcement of occupational health standards. The IH is responsible for conducting compliance investigations of the workplace.

Minimum education, experience, and credentials typically needed to perform the position's essential functions:

EDUCATION:

Possession of a bachelor's degree in the physical sciences, biological sciences, public health, occupational safety or health, or engineering with a minimum of 20 semester (30 term) credits in one or a combination of the following: biology, biostatistics, chemistry, critical incident analysis, engineering, environmental health, epidemiology, ergonomics, health physics, industrial hygiene, physics, physiology, public health, sampling and laboratory analysis, hazardous materials, hazardous materials management, or toxicology.

EXPERIENCE:

Industrial Hygienist 9

No specific type or amount is required.

Industrial Hygienist 10

One year of professional experience in the prevention of occupational diseases and the protection and improvement of the industrial health environment equivalent to an Industrial Hygienist 9.

Industrial Hygienist P11

Two years of professional experience in the prevention of occupational diseases and the protection and improvement of the industrial health environment equivalent to an Industrial Hygienist, including one year equivalent to an Industrial Hygienist 10.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES:

Ability to identify and intelligently discuss industrial hygiene problems with representatives of media, other government agencies, labor, and management. Ability to interpret scientific data collected during investigations and recommend appropriate control methods. Ability to operate technical equipment for obtaining samples. Ability to write clear, concise, and accurate reports. Ability to work independently on assignments.

CERTIFICATES, LICENSES, REGISTRATIONS:

Some positions require an annual audiometric test and the mandatory use of a respirator, which requires an annual physical to ensure the ability to perform the duties of this position. In addition, some positions may require candidates to pass a hyperbaric tunnel physical as a portion of the hiring/interview process to ensure the ability to perform investigations in a pressurized tunnel.