

Environmental Health Specialist Position - Interview Questions

1. What technical knowledge do you bring to this position related to the duties of the environmental health specialist? (2X)

2. What do you think are the top three environmental health issues in Iowa? Why? (1X)

3. What experience do you possess in gathering, analyzing, and interpreting data? (2X)

4. More emphasis is being placed on the accountability of public health programs. To be accountable, you must be able to evaluate program effectiveness. What knowledge/experience do you possess in program evaluation? (2X)

5. This position requires a great deal of problem solving. Describe to us your problems solving skills. How would you handle the following scenario:
 - a. You receive a complaint about a residence in a small community who is illegally discharging their household waste. When you visit the residence you determine there is a failing septic system. After discussing with the homeowner the need to repair or replace the system, the homeowner replies "I'm not fixing anything until everyone else fixes their systems." (3X)

6. The success of an environmental health program relies heavily on the ability of staff to effectively maintain reporting, documentation, and record-keeping systems. Describe to us your reporting, documentation, and record-keeping skills and give us examples of prior experience. (2X)

7. Public health programs are continually asked to "do more with less". This reality forces programs to collaborate with other partners to address common needs. What experience do you bring to this position that will allow you to collaborate with other public health partners? (2X)

8. Much of environmental health is driven through regulatory activities. However, truly effective programs approach regulation through education. Describe to us your experience in educating a group of individuals on the importance and reason for a program or activity. (2X)

9. Effective communication is critical to a successful environmental health program. Describe your communication skills and give us examples of how you are a successful communicator. (2X)

10. Environmental health as a profession has not done a good job of marketing themselves as a critical component of a viable community. Marketing of environmental health programs will determine the future success of those programs. What experience in marketing do you bring to this position? (1X)

SCORING:

Each question is worth five points. Behind each question is a weight that the question is worth (e.g. (2X)). To obtain the total score for the question multiply the points by the weight.