

Role Description

Position Details

Title	Senior Environmental Health Scientist/ Senior Microbiologist	Location	Brisbane
Salary range	\$99,205 - \$106,750 per annum + super	Classification	HP4
Division	Prevention Division	Branch/Work Unit	Health Protection Branch
Reports to	Director, Food Safety Standards and Regulation	No. Direct Reports	0
Status	Permanent full time	Leader Profile	

The Department of Health

The Department of Health has a diverse set of responsibilities, and a common purpose of creating better health care for Queenslanders. The department is responsible for the overall management of the public health system in Queensland. We strongly believe in the need to work with people that value the goals of our organisation and who will thrive in our workplace.

To enable this vision, the Queensland Public Sector is transforming from a focus on compliance to a values-led way of working. The following five values, underpin behaviours that will support and enable better ways of working and result in better outcomes for Queenslanders.



Customers first



Ideas into action



Unleash potential



Be courageous



Empower people

About the Prevention Division

The Prevention Division leads and sets the direction for improving the health of all Queenslanders through the prevention of disease, protection of health, and promotion of wellbeing.

The Prevention Division is led by the Chief Health Officer & Deputy Director-General and is comprised of:

- Office of the Chief Health Officer & Deputy Director-General
- Aeromedical Retrieval and Disaster Management Branch
- Chief Medical Officer and Healthcare Regulation Branch
- Communicable Diseases Branch
- Health Protection Branch
- Preventive Health Branch

About the role

- Fulfil the responsibilities of this role in accordance with the core values of the Queensland Public Service, as outlined above.
- Lead, develop and review specialist clinical policies and procedures that support consistent statewide operational practices, service improvement activities and outcomes on significant environmental health issues relating to food safety and standards.
- Play a key role in developing and contributing to professional and stakeholder networks to facilitate effective communication for the implementation of policies, procedures and service delivery models to manage environmental health, nutrition and food science issues relating to food safety and standards.

- Translate food safety and standards related health scientific data and literature into information that public health practitioners, policy makers, other clinicians and the public can understand and use.
- Play a key role in providing specialist clinical advice on significant environmental health, nutrition and food science issues relating to food safety and standards to line managers, senior management, and stakeholders both within and outside the discipline.
- Provide written and oral reports and presentations on health impacts of food safety and standards issues.
- Provide scientific and health risk advice on food safety and standards matters to management, partners and other stakeholders.
- Utilise skills and knowledge to apply findings from relevant literature, investigations and research studies to improve environmental health practice in relation to food safety and standards.
- Apply advanced knowledge of scientific principles and methods in nutrition and food science to enhance nutritional status and prevent chronic diseases through developing and solving novel and complex nutrition interventions and food regulation issues which influence the environment, affecting food supply and eating behaviour.
- Apply specialist knowledge of the Australian and New Zealand food regulation system to:
 - lead and contribute to decision making, including facilitating the development of whole-of-government positions,
 - identify and implement novel and evidence-based strategies to ensure public health and nutrition priorities across the state and nationally are reflected in the development and ongoing review of food regulation policies and standards.

Recruit for Fit

Organisational Fit

The Department of Health relies on the excellence of its team members to achieve organisational success. All team members are expected to contribute to the development of an organisational culture which encourages innovation, flexibility and empowerment of our workforce, enabling the Department of Health to meet its current and future strategic objectives.

Expectations for our team members are set out in the Department of Health [Success Factors](#) which also incorporates the Public Service Values and the Department of Health Leader Profiles.

The four success factors below have been identified as most relevant to this role.



Role Fit

- Demonstrated high level of knowledge, expertise and skill in food safety related aspects of environmental health, including risk assessment, and the ability to independently undertake all routine environmental health clinical practice responsibilities, including where established principles, procedures and methods require some expansion, adaptation or modification and developing service improvement initiatives.
- Demonstrated understanding of the Australian and New Zealand food regulation system and an ability to apply high level expertise in the provision of advice and development of novel and evidence based solutions to non-routine and complex public health and nutrition relevant food regulation issues, preferably with experience in working within the food regulatory environment.

- Demonstrated ability to implement and manage specific investigations, compliance activities or research projects, and to critically analyse and interpret data to monitor the effects of food regulation
- High level oral and written communication and interpersonal skills, including the ability to work as part of a high performing team, communicate confidently to a range of audiences and undertake effective consultation processes.
- Highly motivated with a demonstrated flexibility in approach to work and working environment and willingness to participate in cross program initiatives to address critical issues as required by management.

Mandatory Qualifications

- Appointment to this position requires proof of qualification and where required, registration with the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA) **or** one of the following boards below.
- Certified copies of relevant qualification and registration must be provided to the appropriate supervisor/manager, prior to the commencement of duties.

Environmental Health Scientist

Appointment to this position requires proof of qualification of a mandatory possession of a tertiary (degree) qualification in medical or environmental science (majoring in environmental toxicology or pollution monitoring and control) that is accredited by the Australian Institute of Environmental Health.

Microbiologist

Appointment to this position requires proof of qualification of a mandatory possession of a tertiary (degree) qualification in medical laboratory science or applied science majoring in chemistry, physics or a biological science.

- While not mandatory, a post-graduate qualification in a related discipline would be well regarded.

Specific working conditions

- Participate in the unit's on-call arrangements and after hours work as required for the effective management of incidents and other health protection issues of concern requiring a rapid response.

Employee obligations

Occupational Health and Safety

The Department of Health aims to maintain a safe, healthy and secure work environment for all employees, clients, visitors and contractors. Achieving this aim is the responsibility of all.

Respect in the Workplace

The Department of Health values and respects the diversity of its workforce and believes that all its employees should be treated fairly and with dignity and respect. All employees of the Department must show respect for each other, visitors, the general public and contractors by treating them fairly and objectively, ensuring freedom from discrimination, sexual harassment, racial or religious vilification, victimisation and bullying. The Department of Health is an equal opportunity workplace.

Additional information

Pre-employment screening, including criminal history and discipline history checks, may be undertaken on persons recommended for employment. Roles providing health, counselling and support services mainly to children will require a Blue Card, unless otherwise exempt.

Discover more about employment at the Department of Health, our people and opportunities to join our team at the [Queensland Health](#) webpage. This page also provides information on how we meet our privacy obligations. To reflect the diversity within the communities and people we support and serve, we seek to hire a workforce that is both representative and diverse. With a focus on inclusion, accessibility and flexibility, we are committed to supporting you in your career with us.