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**NRS 625A.010 Purpose of registration; certificate revocable.** The purpose of registering environmental health specialists is to protect the public health and safety and the general welfare of the people of this state. Any certificate issued pursuant to this chapter is a revocable privilege and no holder of such a certificate acquires thereby any vested right.

(Added to NRS by 1987, 1157; A 1995, 89)

**NRS 625A.020 Definitions.** As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires:

1. "Board" means the Board of Registered Environmental Health Specialists.
2. "Environmental health specialist" means a person who:
  - (a) Is qualified to advocate or recommend the use of sanitary measures for the public benefit by reason of education, practical training and experience determined by the Board to be satisfactory; and
  - (b) Has received from the Board a certificate of registration.

**3. "Environmental Health Specialist Trainee" means any person who possesses (1) a minimum of a baccalaureate degree, including at least 45 quarter hours or 30 semester hours of basic sciences including biology, chemistry, physics, geology, as well as sanitary engineering or environmental engineering from [department approved educational institution or] an educational institution of collegiate grade listed in the directory of accredited institutions of post secondary education compiled by the American Council on Education, but who has not completed the specific education or experience requirements in the field of environmental health as required by NRS**

625A.110 for registration an Environmental Health Specialist; and who becomes employed as an environmental health specialist trainee after July 1, 2005.

4. “Provisional registration” means the registration of an individual by the Board who is working in the career field of environmental health as of July 1, 2005, but who does not meet either or both the educational or testing requirements of NRS 625A.110 and NRS 625.120.

5. “Scope of practice in environmental health” means the practice of public and private sector within the meaning of this statute and includes, but is not limited to, organization, management, education, enforcement, consultation, and emergency response for the purpose of prevention of environmental health hazards and the promotion and protection of the public health and the environment in the following areas: food protection; housing; manufactured housing; public accommodations; institutional environmental health; land use; community noise control; recreational swimming areas and waters; electromagnetic radiation control; solid, liquid, and hazardous materials management; underground storage tank control; onsite septic systems; vector control; drinking water quality; water sanitation; emergency preparedness; bioterrorism; and milk and dairy sanitation. ↪ The term scope of practice in environmental health does not include any person practicing in the field of environmental health whose primary work is for an entity concerning air quality alone, the field of industrial hygiene, indoor air quality, health physics, mold assessment, or mold remediation, nor does it include any person who engages in the practice of professional engineering, unless he is licensed to do so pursuant to chapter 625 of NRS. Any person working in an excluded career area of environmental health may voluntarily register as an Environmental Health Specialist as long as they meet all of the educational, training, experience, and testing qualifications listed under NRS 625A.110 and NRS 625A.120. (Added to NRS by 1987, 1157; A 1995, 89; 1997, 1057)

#### REGISTRATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SPECIALISTS AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SPECIALIST TRAINEES

NRS 625A.025 Registration required. All persons working within the scope of practice in environmental health as defined in NRS 625A.020 must obtain registration with the Board unless their specific occupation or employer is excluded.

NRS 625A.026 Use of title or abbreviation; penalty.

1. Only a person who holds a valid certificate of registration issued by the Board may use the title “registered environmental health specialist”, “environmental health specialist”, registered sanitarian, sanitarian, or the abbreviation “R.E.H.S.”, “E.H.S.” or R.S., after his name.
2. Only a person who holds a valid certificate of registration issued by the Board may use the title “environmental health specialist trainee”.
3. Any person who violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor.

(Added to NRS by 1987, 1161; A 1995, 93)

#### **BOARD OF REGISTERED ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SPECIALISTS**

**NRS 625A.030 Creation; appointment, terms, qualifications and removal of members; election of Chairman and Secretary.**

1. There is hereby created the Board of Registered Environmental Health Specialists, consisting of the State Health Officer or his designated representative and four members appointed by the Governor.
2. After the initial terms, each member appointed by the Governor must be appointed for a term of 3 years.
3. Of the members of the Board appointed by the Governor after his initial appointments:
  - (a) Two must represent the general public. These members must not be:

- (1) An environmental health specialist; or
- (2) The spouse or the parent or child, by blood, marriage or adoption, of an environmental health specialist.

(b) Two must be environmental health specialists, one employed by the health district containing Washoe County and one employed by the health district containing Clark County.

4. The Governor may, after notice and hearing, remove any member of the Board for misconduct in office, incompetency, neglect of duty or other sufficient cause.

5. The Board shall elect from its members who are not employees of the State a Chairman and a Secretary. The Chairman must be elected **biennially [annually]** on **or before** July 1 **of even numbered years**. The Secretary continues in office at the pleasure of the Board.

(Added to NRS by 1987, 1157; A 1995, 89; 2003, [1188](#))

**NRS 625A.040 Meetings: Purpose; manner of calling; quorum; majority required for decision.**

1. The Board shall hold at least one meeting annually to:

- (a) Review and evaluate applications for registration as environmental health specialists.
- (b) Conduct examinations.
- (c) Review expenditures by the Board.
- (d) Prepare reports.
- (e) Transact any other business necessary to enable the Board to carry out its duties.

2. Special meetings of the Board may be called by the Secretary upon the written request of any two members of the Board or upon a written request signed by 10 environmental health specialists.

3. Three members of the Board constitute a quorum to transact all business, and a majority of those present must concur on any decision.

(Added to NRS by 1987, 1157; A 1995, 90)

**NRS 625A.050 Compensation of members and employees.**

1. The Secretary of the Board is entitled to receive:

- (a) A salary in an amount fixed by the Board; and
- (b) A per diem allowance and travel expenses at a rate fixed by the Board, while engaged in the business of the Board. The rate must not exceed the rate provided for state officers and employees generally.

2. All other members of the Board are entitled to receive:

- (a) A salary of not more than \$80 per day, as fixed by the Board, while engaged in the business of the Board; and
- (b) A per diem allowance and travel expenses at a rate fixed by the Board, while engaged in the business of the Board. The rate must not exceed the rate provided for state officers and employees generally.

3. While engaged in the business of the Board, each employee of the Board is entitled to receive a per diem allowance and travel expenses at a rate fixed by the Board. The rate must not exceed the rate provided for state officers and employees generally.

(Added to NRS by 1987, 1157; A 1989, 1695)

**NRS 625A.060 Deposit and expenditure of money received by Board.**

1. The Secretary of the Board shall receive and account for all money paid to the Board and deposit it in banks, credit unions and savings and loan associations in this state.

2. The compensation and expenses of the members and employees of the Board and the expenses of administering the provisions of this chapter must be paid from the fees received by the Board upon approval by the Board.

(Added to NRS by 1987, 1158; A 1989, 1696; 1999, [1529](#))

**NRS 625A.070 Biennial reports: Contents; distribution of copies.**

1. Before September 1 of each even-numbered year, for the biennium ending June 30 of that year, the Board shall file a written report of the activities of the Board with the Governor. The report must include the results of the annual audits of the fiscal records of the Board.

2. A copy of the report must be mailed by the Board to:

- (a) Each environmental health specialist; and
  - (b) Any other person who submits a written request to the Board for a copy.
- (Added to NRS by 1987, 1158; A 1995, 90)

**NRS 625A.080 Records of proceedings; annual audits; seal; regulations.** The Board:

1. Shall keep a record of its proceedings.
  2. Shall provide for an annual audit of its fiscal records .
  - 3. Shall procure a seal.**
  4. May adopt such regulations as are necessary to enable it to carry out the provisions of this chapter.
- (Added to NRS by 1987, 1158)

**[REGISTRATION] REGISTER**

**NRS 625A.090 Maintenance of register of applicants for registration and registered environmental health specialists.** The Board shall maintain a register of all:

1. Applicants for registration as an environmental health specialist which contains:
    - (a) The name, age and place of residence of the applicant;
    - (b) The name and address of the employer of the applicant or address of the place of business of the applicant;
    - (c) The date of the application;
    - (d) The educational qualifications, practical training and experience of the applicant;
    - (e) The date on which the Board reviewed the application, and the action taken;
    - (f) The number of the certificate of registration, if any, issued to the applicant; and
    - (g) Such other information as the Board considers necessary.
  2. Environmental health specialists currently registered.
- (Added to NRS by 1987, 1158; A 1995, 90)

**NRS 625A.100 Application for registration; nonrefundability of fee. [Effective until the date of the repeal of the federal law requiring each state to establish procedures for withholding, suspending and restricting the professional, occupational and recreational licenses for child support arrearages and for noncompliance with certain processes relating to paternity or child support proceedings.]**

1. An applicant for registration as an environmental health specialist must submit to the Board, through its Secretary:
    - (a) A completed application on a form prescribed and furnished by the Board;
    - (b) The required fee; and
    - (c) Proof of his educational qualifications, practical training and experience.
  2. The application must include the social security number of the applicant.
  3. The fee is not refundable.
- (Added to NRS by 1987, 1158; A 1995, 90; 1997, 2117)

**NRS 625A.100 Application for registration; nonrefundability of fee. [Effective on the date of the repeal of the federal law requiring each state to establish procedures for withholding, suspending and restricting the professional, occupational and recreational licenses for child support arrearages and for noncompliance with certain processes relating to paternity or child support proceedings.]**

1. An applicant for registration as an environmental health specialist shall submit to the Board, through its Secretary:
    - (a) A completed application on a form prescribed and furnished by the Board;
    - (b) The required fee; and
    - (c) Proof of his educational qualifications, practical training and experience.
  2. The fee is not refundable.
- (Added to NRS by 1987, 1158; A 1995, 90; 1997, 2117, effective on the date of the repeal of the federal law requiring each state to establish procedures for withholding, suspending and restricting the

professional, occupational and recreational licenses for child support arrearages and for noncompliance with certain processes relating to paternity or child support proceedings)

**NRS 625A.105 Payment of child support: Statement by applicant for certificate; grounds for denial of certificate; duty of Board. [Expires by limitation on the date of the repeal of the federal law requiring each state to establish procedures for withholding, suspending and restricting the professional, occupational and recreational licenses for child support arrearages and for noncompliance with certain processes relating to paternity or child support proceedings.]**

1. An applicant for the issuance of a certificate of registration as an environmental health specialist shall submit to the Board annually, through its Secretary, the statement prescribed by the Welfare Division of the Department of Human Resources pursuant to [NRS 425.520](#). The statement must be completed and signed by the applicant.

2. The Board shall include the statement required pursuant to subsection 1 in:

(a) The application or any other forms that must be submitted for the issuance of the certificate of registration; or

(b) A separate form prescribed by the Board.

3. A certificate of registration as an environmental health specialist may not be issued by the Board if the applicant:

(a) Fails to submit the statement required pursuant to subsection 1; or

(b) Indicates on the statement submitted pursuant to subsection 1 that he is subject to a court order for the support of a child and is not in compliance with the order or a plan approved by the district attorney or other public agency enforcing the order for the repayment of the amount owed pursuant to the order.

4. If an applicant indicates on the statement submitted pursuant to subsection 1 that he is subject to a court order for the support of a child and is not in compliance with the order or a plan approved by the district attorney or other public agency enforcing the order for the repayment of the amount owed pursuant to the order, the Board shall advise the applicant to contact the district attorney or other public agency enforcing the order to determine the actions that the applicant may take to satisfy the arrearage.

(Added to NRS by 1997, 2116)

**NRS 625A.110 Qualifications for registration: Education; experience; exceptions.**

1. To be eligible for registration [as an Environmental Health Specialist](#), an applicant must have:

(a) A [minimum of a baccalaureate \[or higher\] degree from an educational institution of collegiate grade listed in the directory of accredited institutions of post secondary education compiled by the American Council on Education \[accredited college or university\]](#);

(b) Satisfactorily completed at least 45 quarter hours or 30 semester hours of academic work [in basic science courses including biology, chemistry, physics, or geology, as well as sanitary engineering or environmental engineering \[approved by the Board in environmental health and public hygiene or the physical and biological sciences, or a combination of both\]](#); and

[\(c\) Pass a written examination administered by the Board; and \[Or\]](#)

[\(d\)\(c\) Have at least 2 years of experience approved by the Board in this field of public health or alternatively have a minimum of a baccalaureate degree in environmental health, environmental health sciences, or](#)

[\(e\) Possess a master's degree in public health from an educational institution of collegiate grade listed in the directory of accredited institutions of post secondary education compiled by the American Council on Education.](#)

2. The Board may [issue a provisional registration \[register a\] to any](#) person who is not qualified under subsection 1, if he:

(a) Was actively employed in this field of public health in this state on July 1, [\[1987\] 2005](#);

(b) Is a graduate of an accredited high school;

(c) Has had at least [2 \[4\]](#) years of successful experience in this field;

[\[\(d\) Passes a written or oral examination administered by the Board; and](#)

[\(e\) Completes all the requirements of this subsection before July 1, 1991.\]](#)

3. The Board may register, upon written application, any person who:

[\[\(a\) Was employed in this field of public health in this state on July 1, 1987, and was a registered sanitarian in this state before July 1, 1977; or\]](#)

(a**[b]**) Is registered as an environmental health specialist with the National Environmental Health Association; or

(b) Is registered as an environmental health specialist or registered sanitarian with any state recognized by the Board as having comparable registration requirements. [and is a resident of this state]

4. The Board may register any person meeting the definition of Environmental Health Specialist Trainee, for a period of up to but not exceeding three years from the date the trainee is hired.

(Added to NRS by 1987, 1158; A 1995, 91)

**NRS 625A.120 Examination: Written or oral; place and time; identification by number; records; reexamination.**

1. Except for an applicant applying pursuant to subsection 2 or 3 of [NRS 625A.110](#), an applicant who is otherwise eligible for registration, has paid the fee and presented the required credentials must appear personally and pass the written examination certified by the National Environmental Health Association or an equivalent examination prepared by the Board.

2. If the application is filed pursuant to subsection 2 of [NRS 625A.110](#), the Board may use the written examination certified by the National Environmental Health Association or a written or oral examination prepared by the Board.

3. The examination must be administered by the Board not less than once each year at such time and place in this state as the Board specifies.

4. The name of the applicant must not appear on the examination, and the applicant must be identified by a number assigned to him by the Secretary of the Board.

5. All examinations and the records pertaining to them must be filed with the Secretary of the Board and retained for at least 5 years.

6. If an applicant fails the examination, he may be reexamined upon resubmission of his application accompanied by the required fee.

(Added to NRS by 1987, 1159)

**NRS 625A.125 Environmental Health Specialist Trainee registration.**

1. All Environmental Health Specialist Trainees must register with the Board within 90 days of being hired.

2. All Environmental Health Specialist Trainees must enter a training program in which environmental health work consistent with this chapter is performed under the supervision of a Registered Environmental Health Specialist.

3. All Environmental Health Specialist Trainees must pass the written registration examination for Environmental Health Specialists within three years of the date they are first hired as an Environmental Health Specialist.

**NRS 625A.130 Fees; suspension and reinstatement of certificate; regulations. [Effective until the date of the repeal of the federal law requiring each state to establish procedures for withholding, suspending and restricting the professional, occupational and recreational licenses for child support arrearages and for noncompliance with certain processes relating to paternity or child support proceedings.]**

1. Each applicant for registration as an environmental health specialist must pay a fee set by the Board not to exceed \$250.

2. Each applicant who fails an examination and who desires to be reexamined must pay a fee set by the Board not to exceed \$200 for each reexamination.

3. Each registered environmental health specialist must pay to the Secretary of the Board on or before the date fixed by the Board an annual fee for registration to be set by the Board not to exceed \$100. The annual fee for registration must be collected for the year in which an environmental health specialist is initially registered.

4. The certificate of any environmental health specialist who fails to submit the statement required pursuant to [NRS 625A.105](#) or pay the annual fee for registration within 60 days after it is due is automatically suspended. The Board must notify the environmental health specialist that his certificate has been suspended pursuant to this subsection. It may be reinstated pursuant to regulations adopted by the Board.

(Added to NRS by 1987, 1159; A 1995, 91; 1997, 2117)

**NRS 625A.130 Fees; suspension and reinstatement of certificate; regulations. [Effective on the date of the repeal of the federal law requiring each state to establish procedures for withholding, suspending and restricting the professional, occupational and recreational licenses for child support arrearages and for noncompliance with certain processes relating to paternity or child support proceedings.]**

1. Each applicant for registration as an environmental health specialist shall pay a fee set by the Board not to exceed \$250.

2. Each applicant who fails an examination and who desires to be reexamined shall pay a fee set by the Board not to exceed \$200 for each reexamination.

3. Each registered environmental health specialist shall pay to the Secretary of the Board on or before the date fixed by the Board an annual fee for registration to be set by the Board not to exceed \$100. The annual fee for registration must be collected for the year in which an environmental health specialist is initially registered.

4. The certificate of any environmental health specialist who fails to pay the annual fee for registration within 60 days after it is due is automatically suspended. The Board must notify the environmental health specialist that his certificate has been suspended for nonpayment of the annual fee. It may be reinstated pursuant to regulations adopted by the Board.

(Added to NRS by 1987, 1159; A 1995, 91; 1997, 2117, effective on the date of the repeal of the federal law requiring each state to establish procedures for withholding, suspending and restricting the professional, occupational and recreational licenses for child support arrearages and for noncompliance with certain processes relating to paternity or child support proceedings)

**NRS 625A.140 Contents of certificate of registration.** Each certificate issued by the Board must be numbered and contain the:

1. Designation "Registered Environmental Health Specialist or [Environmental Health Specialist Trainee](#)."

2. Name of the person registered.

3. Date of issuance.

**4. Registration number.**

**5. A reference to the portion of this statute under which the registration is issued.**

6. Seal of the [State of Nevada \[Board\]](#).

7. Signatures of the [Chairman and Secretary \[members\]](#) of the Board.

(Added to NRS by 1987, 1160; A 1995, 91)

**NRS 625A.150 Continuing education: Prerequisite for renewal of registration; exemptions; regulations.**

1. The Board shall adopt regulations requiring participation in a program of continuing education as a prerequisite for the renewal of a certificate of registration.

2. The Board may exempt an environmental health specialist from the requirements for continuing education if he is able to show good cause why the requirements could not be met. The exemption may not be granted to a person more than once in any 2-year period.

(Added to NRS by 1987, 1160; A 1995, 92)

**[NRS 625A.155 Employees. The Board may employ and fix the compensation to be paid to attorneys, investigators and other professional consultants and clerical personnel necessary to the discharge of its duties and may reimburse such employees for actual expenses they incur while acting on behalf of the Board.](#)**

## DISCIPLINARY ACTION

**NRS 625A.160 Grounds for disciplinary action.** The grounds for initiating disciplinary action under this chapter are:

1. Unprofessional conduct;
  2. Conviction of a felony relating to the practice of an environmental health specialist or any offense involving moral turpitude;
  3. The suspension or revocation of a certificate or license as an environmental health specialist by any other jurisdiction; or
  4. Failure to meet the requirements for continuing education.
- (Added to NRS by 1987, 1160; A 1995, 92; 2003, [2705](#))

**NRS 625A.165 Suspension of certificate for failure to pay child support or comply with certain subpoenas or warrants; reinstatement of certificate.** [Expires by limitation on the date of the repeal of the federal law requiring each state to establish procedures for withholding, suspending and restricting the professional, occupational and recreational licenses for child support arrearages and for noncompliance with certain processes relating to paternity or child support proceedings.]

1. If the Board receives a copy of a court order issued pursuant to [NRS 425.540](#) that provides for the suspension of all professional, occupational and recreational licenses, certificates and permits issued to a person who is the holder of a certificate of registration as an environmental health specialist, the Board shall deem the certificate registration issued to that person to be suspended at the end of the 30th day after the date on which the court order was issued unless the Board receives a letter issued to the holder of the certificate of registration by the district attorney or other public agency pursuant to [NRS 425.550](#) stating that the holder of the certificate of registration has complied with the subpoena or warrant or has satisfied the arrearage pursuant to [NRS 425.560](#).

2. The Board shall reinstate a certificate of registration as an environmental health specialist that has been suspended by a district court pursuant to [NRS 425.540](#) if the Board receives a letter issued by the district attorney or other public agency pursuant to [NRS 425.550](#) to the person whose certificate of registration was suspended stating that the person whose certificate of registration was suspended has complied with the subpoena or warrant or has satisfied the arrearage pursuant to [NRS 425.560](#).

(Added to NRS by 1997, 2116)

**NRS 625A.170 Unprofessional conduct.** The following acts, among others established by the Board, constitute unprofessional conduct:

1. Willfully making a false or fraudulent statement or submitting a forged or false document in applying for a certificate;
2. Habitual drunkenness or addiction to the use of a controlled substance;
3. Engaging in any conduct in his professional activities which is intended to deceive or which the Board has determined is unethical; or
4. Violating or attempting to violate, directly or indirectly, or assisting in or abetting the violation of or conspiring to violate any provision of this chapter or a regulation of the Board.

(Added to NRS by 1987, 1160)

**NRS 625A.180 Authorized actions; private reprimands prohibited; orders imposing discipline deemed public records.**

1. If the Board finds after a hearing, or after providing an opportunity for a hearing, that disciplinary action is necessary, it may by order:

- (a) Place the environmental health specialist on probation for a specified period or until further order of the Board;
- (b) Administer a public reprimand; or
- (c) Suspend or revoke his certificate.

2. If the order places an environmental health specialist on probation, the Board may impose such limitations or conditions upon his professional activities as it finds consistent to protect the public health.
3. The Board shall not administer a private reprimand.
4. An order that imposes discipline and the findings of fact and conclusions of law supporting that order are public records.

(Added to NRS by 1987, 1160; A 1995, 92; 2003, [3424](#))

**NRS 625A.185 Certain records relating to investigation deemed confidential; certain records relating to disciplinary action deemed public records.**

1. Except as otherwise provided in this section, a complaint filed with the Board, all documents and other information filed with the complaint and all documents and other information compiled as a result of an investigation conducted to determine whether to initiate disciplinary action are confidential.

2. The complaint or other document filed by the Board to initiate disciplinary action and all documents and information considered by the Board when determining whether to impose discipline are public records.

(Added to NRS by 2003, [3424](#))

**[NRS 625A.190 Notice of denial of application or disciplinary action; request for hearing; scheduling of hearing.](#)**

**[1. Upon denial of an application for registration or renewal of a certificate or other disciplinary action, the Board shall give the person written notice of its decision mailed to him at his last known address by certified mail, return receipt requested. The notice must:](#)**

**[\(a\) State the reason for the denial or disciplinary action; and](#)**

**[\(b\) Inform the person that he has the right to a hearing before the Board.](#)**

**[2. A written request for a hearing must be filed with the Board within 30 days after the notice is mailed. If a hearing is requested, the Board shall set a time and place for a formal hearing and notify the person of the time and place set for the hearing. The Board shall hold the hearing at the time and place designated in the notice.](#)**

**[\(Added to NRS by 1987, 1161; A 1995, 92\)](#)**

**[MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS]**

**[ NRS 625A.190 Notice of denial of application or disciplinary action; request for hearing; scheduling of hearing.**

**1. Upon denial of an application for registration or renewal of a certificate or other disciplinary action, the Board shall give the person written notice of its decision mailed to him at his last known address by certified mail, return receipt requested. The notice must:**

**(a) State the reason for the denial or disciplinary action; and**

**(b) Inform the person that he has the right to a hearing before the Board.**

**2. A written request for a hearing must be filed with the Board within 30 days after the notice is mailed. If a hearing is requested, the Board shall set a time and place for a formal hearing and notify the person of the time and place set for the hearing. The Board shall hold the hearing at the time and place designated in the notice.**

**(Added to NRS by 1987, 1161; A 1995, 92)]**

**[NRS 625A.200 Use of title or abbreviation; penalty.**

**1. Only a person who holds a valid certificate of registration issued by the board may use the title “registered environmental health specialist” or “environmental health specialist” or the abbreviation “R.E.H.S.” or “E.H.S.” after his name.**

**2. Any person who violates this section is guilty of a misdemeanor.**

**(Added to NRS by 1987, 1161; A 1995, 93)]**