



The Royal  
Environmental  
Health Institute  
of Scotland

# How do I become an Environmental Health Officer?

## What does it involve?

Engaging, Explaining, Encouraging, Enforcing in the fields of:



*Improving and protecting health and wellbeing in Scotland through  
education, training and qualifications in Environmental Health*

# How do I become an EHO?

To qualify as an Environmental Health Officer (EHO) in Scotland requires academic study, structured professional practice and completion of a professional examination.

## Academic Study

Academic Study requires the completion of a REHIS accredited academic programme. This is to ensure that the course includes all the academic elements required for a career as an EHO in Scotland.

Abertay University in Dundee offers REHIS accredited Master programmes in Environmental Health. The entry requirements to the programmes are a minimum of a lower second-class honours degree (2:2), or equivalent, in a relevant scientific discipline such as biosciences, chemistry, food and nutritional sciences, zoological sciences, or related fields. Previous studies should demonstrate a solid foundation in scientific principles appropriate to environmental health.

## Professional Practice

Structured professional practice of at least 48 weeks can be completed through a formal training placement with a local authority or through experience and learning from a number of relevant organisations.

The training may be incorporated within the accredited course or may be completed during vacation periods or in an 'end on' manner, after completion of the academic study.

Registration with REHIS as a student or graduate trainee EHO at the commencement of professional practice is essential. On registering, a copy of the current Royal Environmental Health Institute of Scotland Scheme of Professional Practice is provided to guide the student/graduate trainee EHO through the competencies which require to be gained during training.

## Professional Examination

The professional examination includes completion of a portfolio and professional interviews in accordance with the Scheme of Professional Practice. The portfolio is based on the period of structured professional practice and is assessed by REHIS assessors. Subject to meeting the requirements of the scheme the trainee is eligible to present for the professional interviews.

On passing the professional examination, the REHIS Diploma in Environmental Health, the qualification required to practice as an Environmental Health Officer in Scotland, is awarded.

## Chartered Environmental Health Officer

Chartered EHO status is the highest possible professional status and recognises an individual's professional qualifications, training, experience within, and commitment to, environmental health practice.

All members of the Institute who are Environmental Health Officers can achieve and maintain Chartered EHO status subject to complying with the Institute's Scheme of Continuing Professional Development (CPD) and the regulations governing professional conduct and discipline.



The Royal Environmental Health Institute of Scotland  
19 Torphichen Street, Edinburgh, EH3 8HX  
Tel: 0131 229 2968 E-mail: [contact@rehis.com](mailto:contact@rehis.com)  
Website: [www.rehis.com](http://www.rehis.com)



@rehisscotland



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