

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND SAFETY TECHNOLOGY, ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE



Program Information

Is safety your number one priority? Are you analytical, cautious, and efficient? If so, a career in environmental health and safety technology may be the right path for you. This is a specialized branch of the health profession that focuses on the environment of workers. Environmental health and safety professionals strive to find and eliminate conditions in the workplace that may result in injury or disease. This is achieved through a process of anticipation, recognition, evaluation, and control of the various stresses that contribute to unsafe working environments.

The San Jacinto College Environmental Health and Safety Technology program:

- Is multi-disciplinary in nature, providing students with relevant exposure to biological, chemical, physical, mathematical, and health sciences disciplines, as well as a thorough introduction to occupational health and safety concepts;
- Trains students to recognize common occupational safety concerns that deal with safety hazards involved with confined space entry, hazardous energy control, hazard communication, compliance with safety standards, environmental protection; and other areas; and
- Prepares students to perform the following functions: identify and analyze accident and loss-producing conditions; develop accident prevention and loss control methods, procedures, and programs; communicate accidents and loss-control data to individuals on a need-to-know basis; and measure and evaluate the effectiveness of accident and loss-control systems.

Additional Information

The San Jacinto College Environmental Health and Safety Technology curriculum is modeled from guidelines of the American Board of Industrial Hygiene (ABIH) and the Board of Certified Safety Professionals (BCSP). The ABIH and BCSP began a jointly sponsored certification program through the Council on Certification of Health, Environmental, and Safety Technologists (CCHEST). CCHEST will administer the testing. Students who pass the certification examination and pay the required fees are authorized to use the title Environmental Health and Safety Technologist, and to use the initials OHST after their names. Students may further their studies at a university leading toward

positions as a Certified Safety Professional and/or Certified Industrial Hygienist.

Career Opportunities

An environmental health and safety manager heads the modern safety and health team. Depending on the size of the company and the commitment of its management, the teams include positions for:

- Safety/Environmental Specialists,
- Safety/Environmental Engineers,
- Industrial Hygienists,
- Risk Management Specialists,
- Health Physicists,
- Occupational Physicians, and
- Occupational Health Nurses.

The job of the environmental health and safety manager is complex and diverse focusing on analysis, prevention, planning, evaluation, promotion, and compliance. Educational requirements range from technical certificates to graduate degrees. Additional college majors held by practitioners include environmental science, occupational and environmental health and safety, industrial safety and health technology, industrial technology, industrial engineering technology, manufacturing technology, industrial management, and engineering technology.

Earning Potential

Occupational Health and Safety Technician: \$75,002 per year.¹

¹ Source: texaswages.com (<http://texaswages.com>), median salary Gulf Coast region, 2023

For more information, students may contact: Department Chair – 281-998-6350, x1188. Direct: 281-478-2712 - shawn.dickerson@sjcd.edu

Campus

Central Campus