



CAREER PROFILE

Environmental, Health, & Safety Worker

JOB OUTLOOK

Employment of Environmental, Health, & Safety Workers is expected to show a 9% growth by 2026. As manufacturing, technology, construction, energy, and mining become more sophisticated, Environmental, Health, & Safety Workers monitor and help ensure the safety of all involved.

SALARY RANGE

\$53,000 to \$142,000

EDUCATION/TRAINING

In addition to a bachelor's degree, this position may require:

- A degree from an ABET-accredited engineering program
- A passing score on the Fundamentals of Engineering (FE) exam
- A passing score on the Professional Engineering (PE) exam

WHO ARE THEY?¹

Environmental, Health, & Safety Workers combine their knowledge of the environment, health, and safety to protect people from illness and injury. They also ensure certain chemicals, industrial machinery, and other products will not cause harm to people or property. They use their knowledge to develop best practices to ensure workers do not get sick or injured by their work environment.

WHAT DO THEY DO?²

An Environmental, Health, & Safety Worker would review new equipment to make sure it is safe to use. They would inspect the work environment for hazardous conditions. They make sure all safety equipment is maintained and used correctly. They would watch for ways safety levels could be improved and make recommendations and process improvements. They stay current on all health and safety regulations and industry standards. Environmental, Health, & Safety Workers would be called in to investigate an accident or injury, determine the cause, and make recommendations on how to prevent that in the future. Some specialize in fire prevention, product safety, and systems safety. They can find positions in many industries, including natural gas, manufacturing facilities, automotive and aerospace, to name a few.

HOW DO I BECOME ONE?

Environmental, Health, & Safety Workers typically have an associates or bachelor's degree in environmental health and safety or a related engineering discipline. A cooperative-education program would be valuable. Some colleges and universities offer a 5-year program where students can graduate with both a bachelor's and a master's degree. The master's degree allows engineers to enter the field at a higher level and develop and implement their safety systems.

¹ Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Outlook Handbook, Health and Safety Engineers, on the Internet at <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/architecture-and-engineering/health-and-safety-engineers.htm> (visited August 19, 2019).

² Your Free Career Test, What does a Health & Safety Engineer do?, on the internet <https://www.yourfreecareertest.com/health-safety-engineer/> (visited August 19, 2019)