Iowa Department of Administrative Services – Human Resources Enterprise
Classification Series Guidelines

Health Physicist Series

Classes in the Series

Class Code	Class Title
04507	Health Physicist 1
04508	Health Physicist 2
04509	Health Physicist 3

Series Concept

Classes in this series perform radiological and environmental work in the fields of radiological health and health physics, waste disposal, consumer health protection, and related environmental health areas. Positions function in the areas of health protection relating to radiation machines, mammography, radioactive materials, radon, and/or dose assessment and emergency response.

NOTE**:** Iowa Code Chapter 136C has designated the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as the state radiation control agency. HHS is responsible for regulating the installation and use of radiation machines and radioactive materials in this state, and for the evaluation and control of hazards associated with the use of sources of radiation, including emergency response.

Exclusions

Positions performing professional work in environmental and health protection programs with limited involvement in areas of radiological health should be classified in the Environmental Specialist Series.

Class Distinctions

Health Physicist 1

Positions are initially assigned trainee-level professional inspection work in radiation and environmental health programs, requiring a background in natural science or a radiation or environmental control program. Upon satisfactory completion of the required government-sponsored core course in health physics or other specialized training programs as required by federal agencies, the employee will be given journey-level assignments. Employees perform data and information gathering in implementing one of the three areas in the radiation control program (radiation machines, radioactive materials or related environmental health, training and emergency response). In assessing compliance and safety, employees utilize standards, physical principles and mathematical manipulations to determine root cause and effect. Positions are assigned specific field investigations to compare and report documented procedures and actual practices.

Health Physicist 2

Work involves the planning for and execution of inspections and health protection activities in one of the three areas in the radiation control program (radiation machines, radioactive materials, or dose assessment/emergency response). Positions determine methods and procedures and review data for presentation. They conduct independent field investigations to assess the immediate health and safety concerns in environmental, industrial, academic, medical and private settings. Employees act as team leaders and points of contact for large or multi-faceted investigations. Full-scale emergency response is

performed at this level. Employees also determine the impact on health and safety of research with, transport of, and release to the environment of sources of radiation.

Health Physicist 3

Employees design and develop policies and procedures for and the evaluation of the operation of one of five program areas in the radiation control bureau (radiation machines, mammography, radioactive materials, radon, or dose assessment/emergency response). They conduct detailed technical and scientific analyses of situations, devise plans for investigation and remediation, and disseminate information at critical points in the process. Employees present information in the form of instructional classes, meetings, or individual consulting. They assess the program to ensure that the technical knowledge of the individuals working within the program matches the needs of the program, and arranges for training to enhance program specific knowledge as necessary. Employees at this level may function as lead workers over a unit of lower level professional and technical staff.

Effective date: 01/25 SA