

PUBLIC HEALTH CODE (EXCERPT)
Act 368 of 1978

333.18401 Definitions; principles of construction.

Sec. 18401.

(1) As used in this part:

(a) ~~“Environmental health” means an area of activity dealing with the protection of human health through the management, control, and prevention of environmental factors that may adversely affect the health of individuals. Environmental health is concerned with the existence of substances, conditions, or facilities in quantities, of characteristics, and under conditions, circumstances, or duration that are or can be injurious to human health.~~ **a scientific discipline which addresses the interrelationships between people and their environment that may adversely impact human health or the ecological balances essential to long term human health and environmental quality whether natural or manmade.**

(b) ~~“Registered sanitarian” means a sanitarian registered in accordance with this article.~~

(b) “Practice of environmental health” means the determination of environmental health risk through the performance of investigations, or inspections, or monitoring, or consulting, or educating; and determining actions to control, mitigate or prevent adverse human health impacts by applying regulations, or advising, or designing, or testing, or other means, or offering, undertaking, attempting to do, or representing oneself as able to do, any of these acts. This activity is concerned with the existence of substances or conditions which are or can be injurious to human health. The practice of environmental health shall include those individuals who perform or offer the aforementioned services in either, or both, of the following capacities:

(i) Enforce the environmental health provisions of this code, or other state or local environmental health regulation.

(ii) Environmental health work in three or more of the following areas:

- A. Environmental epidemiology**
- B. Food protection**
- C. Wastewater**
- D. Solid and hazardous waste**
- E. Potable water**
- F. Institutions and licensed establishments**
- G. Vectors, pests, and poisonous plants**
- H. Swimming pools and recreational facilities**
- I. Housing**
- J. Hazardous materials**
- K. Radiation protection**
- L. Occupational safety and health**
- M. Air quality and noise**
- N. Disaster sanitation and emergency planning**

(c) **"Registered sanitarian" or "r.s."** means an individual who has specialized education and experience in the physical, biological, and sanitary sciences as applied to the educational, investigational, and technical duties in the field of environmental health **and is licensed under this article to engage in the practice of environmental health.**

(2) In addition to the definitions in this part, article 1 contains general definitions and principles of construction applicable to all articles in this code and part 161 contains definitions applicable to this part.

333.18411 Use of titles or similar words.

Sec. 18411.

A person shall not use the titles "sanitarian", "registered sanitarian", "r.s.", **"licensed sanitarian", "environmental health specialist", "registered environmental health specialist", "environmental health officer", "environmental health professional",** or similar words which indicate **or imply** that he, or she, or it is a registered sanitarian unless the person is ~~registered~~ **licensed** under this article **or the holder of Michigan sanitarian registration or national environmental health association registered environmental health specialist certification within 2 years subsequent to the effective date of this part.**

333.18413 Conflict of interest; adoption by reference.

Sec. 18413.

(1) A registered sanitarian shall not engage in or have an interest in any work, project, or operation prejudicial to his or her professional interest and shall not engage in the practice of professional engineering as defined in section 2001 of the occupational code, 1980 PA 299, MCL 339.2001, unless the activity is consistent with that as defined in section 18401(c).

(2) The standards of the national environmental health association as they exist on the effective date of the amendatory act that added this subsection relative to qualifications, education, and examinations are adopted by reference. The department shall accept the **successful completion of the national environmental health association's registered environmental health specialist/registered sanitarian examination or a successor examination** certification by the national environmental health association ~~of the successful completion of any education or examination for purposes of registration~~ **licensure** under this part.

(3) Notwithstanding section 16148, the department may by rule adopt any other or additional appropriate standards and may adopt any updates or amendments to the national environmental health association standards adopted under subsection (2).

333.18421 ~~Advisory committee~~ Michigan board of sanitarians; creation; ~~purpose;~~ **appointment and terms of members.**

Sec. 18421.

~~(1) There is created a 7-member advisory committee whose purpose is to make recommendations to the department relative to qualifications for registration, establishment of education and training standards, and actions regarding disciplinary proceedings. The members shall be appointed by the governor for a term of 3 years.~~ **The Michigan board of sanitarians is created in the department and shall consist of 7 voting members who shall meet the requirements of part 161.**

(2) The membership on the ~~committee~~ **board** is as follows:

(a) Four members who are registered sanitarians.

(b) One member who ~~represents the Michigan restaurant association or its successor organization~~ **is a licensed well driller.**

(c) One member who ~~represents the Michigan groundwater association or its successor organization~~ **holds a food service establishment license.**

(d) One member who ~~represents the Michigan onsite wastewater recycling association or its successor organization~~ **holds a license to practice one of the other occupations listed in this code.**

(3) Of the initial members who are registered sanitarians, 1 member shall be appointed for a term of 1 year, 1 member shall be appointed for a term of 2 years, and 2 members shall be appointed for terms of 3 years.

333.18423 Practice of environmental health; license required.

Section 18423.

(1) An individual shall not engage in the practice of environmental health unless licensed under this part.

(2) Subsection (1) does not prevent any of the following:

(a) An individual licensed under any other part or act from performing activities that are considered within the practice of environmental health if those activities are within the individual's scope of practice and if the individual does not use the titles protected under section 18411.

(b) An individual not licensed under this part from performing sampling, testing, controlling of vectors, reporting of observations, or other duties that do not require application of specialized knowledge and skills in environmental health while under the supervision of an individual who is licensed under this part as a sanitarian, if the individual does not use the titles protected under section 18411.

(c) An individual not licensed under this part from performing administrative public health duties which do not require application of specialized knowledge and skills in environmental health.

333.18425 Licensure; requirements.

Section 18425.

(1) Except as otherwise provided under subsection (2), an individual granted a license under this part shall demonstrate the successful completion of the national environmental health association's registered environmental health specialist examination or a successor examination as determined by the department.

(2) The department shall grant a license as a sanitarian to an individual who meets one of the following qualifications:

(a) An individual in possession of a State of Michigan sanitarian registration as of the effective date of this part shall apply for and be granted licensure as a sanitarian within 2 years subsequent to the effective date of this part if that individual intends to continue working within the practice of environmental health.

(b) An individual in possession of national environmental health association certificate of registration as an environmental health specialist as of the effective date of this part shall apply for and be granted licensure as a sanitarian within 2 years subsequent to the effective date of this part if that individual intends to continue working within the practice of environmental health.

(c) An unregistered individual performing activities within the practice of environmental health as of the effective date of this part shall apply for and be granted licensure as a sanitarian within 6 months subsequent to the effective date of this part if that individual intends to continue working within the practice of environmental health.

(3) A licensed sanitarian shall demonstrate the successful completion of a minimum of 24 hours of continuing education every two years in accordance with the national environmental health association criteria or successor criteria as determined by the department.

333.18427 Limited licensure.

Section 18427.

(1) The department may issue a limited license as a sanitarian to an applicant who does not meet the requirements of section 18425, if the applicant qualifies under either of the following criteria:

(a) The individual has received a bachelor or graduate degree in environmental health from a university accredited by the national environmental health science and Protection Accreditation Council.

(b) The individual has successfully completed the requirements for a bachelor degree which includes:

- (i) An algebra course or higher math level; and**
- (ii) 30 semester/45 quarter hours in basic sciences.**

(2) The holder of a limited license issued under this section may apply for a renewal of the limited license, but an individual may not hold a limited license for more than a total of 5 years.