

Employment Opportunity



Established in 1877, the Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (VDACS) promotes the economic growth and development of Virginia agriculture, provides consumer protection and encourages environmental stewardship.

Food Safety Specialist (Environmental Specialist I, Pay Band 4)

#01297 – Albemarle

The Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services is seeking a self-motivated person to become part of our Food Safety team. This position is responsible for the evaluation of food processes and the enforcement of the Virginia Food Laws and related federal and state regulations. Duties include evaluating the condition of food processing facilities relative to food safety and food defense; assisting new and existing food processing technologies and food labeling at manufacturing operations and retail food establishments; investigating complaints; conducting food borne illness investigations; collecting official samples of food and food related products; reviewing new food business proposals and assisting in the development of safe food processes; and evaluating and interpreting nutritional related claims for foods and dietary supplements.

The selected individual will establish and work from a home office under the guidance and direction of a regional field office. The work territory for this position are the counties/cities of Charlottesville, Nelson, Albemarle, and Fluvanna. The successful candidate will be required to live in or convenient to the assigned territory. The use of a state vehicle will be provided for business use only.

QUALIFICATIONS: Knowledge of food safety practices and principles; food processing theory and practices; and dietary supplement safety including structure function claims and labeling. Possess proficient computers skills and standard office applications. Exceptional customer service skills; a verifiable ability to communicate effectively (oral and written); work well with the public under stressful situations as well as the demonstrated ability to interpret and apply laws & regulations and to independently plan, organize and execute job duties including investigating complaints. The ability to assume extensive responsibility, exhibit initiative and reliability, and work independently and in a team environment; to make autonomous decisions and to take appropriate actions in diverse circumstances and environments; to respond to emergency situations and other assigned duties during both traditional and non-traditional work periods; and to effectively plan and organize work activities. Additionally, good visual acuity and the ability to walk, bend, stretch, crouch and lift light loads up to 40 lbs is needed. Must have (or be eligible for) and maintain a valid driver's license and have a driving record that reflects a sense of responsibility for highway safety. HS Diploma/GED required. **Prefer:** Degree in Food Science, Biology, Chemistry, Environmental Health or a related field. Experience applying food safety principles, food processing and related quality and safety controls at the government level and working knowledge of HACCP (especially as pertaining to seafood) and Virginia Food Laws also preferred. An equivalent combination of training and experience indicating possession of the preceding knowledge and abilities may substitute for this education and experience. **Hiring Salary Range: \$35,278-\$50,760 annually.**

The final candidate must successfully complete a fingerprint-based criminal background check.

To be considered for this position, you must apply online at <https://virginiajobs.peopleadmin.com/> by 11:59 PM EST/EDT on **September 4, 2019**. For more information or assistance, you may contact the Human Resources Office, Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, 102 Governor Street, Room 248, Richmond, VA 23219; Telephone: (804) 371-8066; Hearing Impaired 1-800-828-1120; E-mail hr.vdacs@vdacs.virginia.gov. VDACS is an equal opportunity employer & encourages candidates with disabilities to apply.

Quality Customer Service: A VDACS Commitment

Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services
Human Resource Office, Room 248, Oliver Hill Building, 102 Governor Street, Richmond, VA 23219

An Equal Opportunity Employer

vdacs.virginia.gov