



# RUTGERS



*EPH instructor gives hands-on soil identification demonstration using a Munsell soil color chart.*

## Environment & Public Health Program

**8-Week Online Course and  
200-Hour Health Department Internship**

**May 24 to July 16, 2021**

New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station  
Office of Continuing Professional Education



# What Is the Environment & Public Health (EPH) Program?

The Rutgers EPH Program is an 8-week course followed by a 200-hour unpaid field training internship at a NJ health department. In one comprehensive summer career preparation program, you will gain the technical expertise and hands-on experience you need to sit for the NJ Registered Environmental Health Specialist (REHS) licensing exam.

## Career Options in Public Health

In New Jersey, an REHS acts as a front-line investigator. REHSs work as health inspectors, environmental compliance managers, and environmental consultants in both the public and private sectors. EPH graduates work on global and local issues such as:

- Assessing data and resources to control effects of a pandemic event
- Contributing to zoning dialogue for better built environments
- Detecting, reporting, and investigating infectious disease outbreaks
- Developing and exercising bioterrorism preparedness plans
- GIS mapping of disease outbreaks and contamination events
- Monitoring air, soil, and food for safety and regulation compliance
- Protecting surface and ground waters from contamination
- Studying insect and rodent populations to detect disease vectors

If you have the heart, desire, and skills to save lives and protect the environment, now is the time to join the next generation of environmental health professionals!



## Why Rutgers?



**Career Advancement - Earn an NJ REHS License:** As a graduate of the Rutgers EPH program, you will be eligible to take the New Jersey licensing exam to become a [Registered Environmental Health Specialist \(REHS\)](#). Adding this state license to your resume will help you grow your career in public health.



**Safe and Convenient:** Even during the COVID-19 pandemic, you do not have to wait to pursue your environmental health career. The 2021 EPH class will be held online. Live webinar sessions will be conducted Monday through Thursday; pre-recorded, self-paced video lessons will be held on Fridays.



**Learn From the Best:** Receive personalized attention from distinguished Rutgers professors, established REHSs, engineers, health officers, NJDEP and NJDOH representatives, environmental consultants, and more!



**Internship Included:** Rutgers will place you in an unpaid 200-hour summer internship at a health department. In addition to classroom learning, you will gain the first-hand experience you need to prepare for the REHS licensing exam.



**Networking:** The EPH network of professors, instructors, alumni, and students is a robust community that you can tap into for job referrals and technical advice throughout your career. Our office maintains contact with hundreds of organizations who notify us of job openings throughout the year.

Plus, Rutgers will pay your initial one-year membership fee to join the NJ Environmental Health Association ([www.njeha.org](http://www.njeha.org)).

# EPH Classroom Curriculum

The EPH course includes modules covering a wide range of topics to give you the foundation you need for a career in environmental health.

## Environmental Pollution:

Hazardous materials (earn a HazMat Awareness **certificate!**) and pollution control strategies for water, indoor air, and atmospheric air.



## Epidemiology:

Agents of communicable disease, causality and association, surveillance, statistical analysis, and outbreak investigation techniques.

## Public Health Microbiology:

Microbial pathogens of public health concern are presented through lectures and real-life outbreak examples, including transmission modes, symptoms, occurrence, and reservoirs.



## Public Health Sanitation:

Veterinary public health, body art, tanning, pool chemistry, youth camp safety, recreational bathing, and food safety principles (e.g. retail food protection and risk-based inspection techniques).

## Soils, Septics, and the Environment:

Regulations and environmental issues related to on-site sewage disposal (septics), underground storage tanks, wells and water supply, and contamination assessments. Includes reviews of engineering plans and videos of hands-on fieldwork.

## Water and Wastewater:

Beginning with a brief water chemistry review, this subject covers how drinking water is protected from contamination, how drinking water and wastewater is conveyed, and the responsibilities of an REHS regarding processes.



## Special Topics:

Basic Pesticide Safety (earn a **certificate**, the first step toward NJDEP CORE exam eligibility), law, communication, administration, preparedness, resume writing, and more!



## EPH Internship Experience

After the 8-week online classroom session concludes, we will place you in an unpaid 200-hour (approximately five weeks) internship with a New Jersey health department. Rutgers will arrange the field experience for each student in accordance with the EPH Field Training Manual, which ensures that all trainees receive a complete field training experience.

You'll gain a wide range of on-the-job skills including:

- Inspecting wholesale and retail food establishments
- Conducting epidemiological investigations
- Inspecting recreational bathing facilities
- Investigating air and noise pollution
- Monitoring streams, lakes, and groundwater
- Investigating reports of disease outbreaks
- Observing a court case
- Reviewing different methods of solid waste disposal
- Witnessing septic system installations
- And much more!



*"The program **online was a blessing**; it allowed me to finally get a foot in the door for a **career I always wanted**. I enjoyed hearing from so many different professionals and being able to ask a lot of questions. I learned so much in this class! Right after my internship, **I was immediately hired full-time.**"*

Breanna Livingstone, REHS  
Burlington County Health Department, Westampton, NJ

# EPH Program Details

## Online Classroom Dates and Times:

May 24 - July 16, 2021

Live Webinar Sessions: Monday-Thursday, 8:45am-3:30pm (approx.)

Pre-recorded Video Lessons & Self-paced Coursework: Most Fridays

## Internship Dates, Times, and Locations:

Rutgers places students in full-time, 200-hour internships at New Jersey health departments. Exact dates and times vary; internships are primarily completed weekdays during typical business hours. Locations vary; we do our best to place students based on their preference and site availability.

## Fees:

\$50 application fee (non-refundable)

\$4,045 registration fee (if you register before May 1, 2021)

\$4,495 registration fee (if you register on or after May 1, 2021)

*All fees must be paid in full to reserve a seat in the course.*

*REFUND POLICY: You may withdraw in writing before May 1 to receive a full refund less the \$50 application fee. After May 1, a \$500 processing/administrative fee will also be deducted from the refund. No refunds offered for withdrawals less than five business days before the course start date.*

## Financial Aid:

As a non-credit program, traditional financial aid is not available. However, EPH students may qualify for student loans that can cover the full cost of tuition. Lifetime learning tax credits and veterans benefits may also be available to you.

**Details:** [www.cpe.rutgers.edu/eph/financial-aid](http://www.cpe.rutgers.edu/eph/financial-aid)

## Learning and Technology Requirements:

Students should have a quiet space to participate in class and study; high-speed internet; a reliable computer, webcam, and microphone. Tablets and smartphones are not recommended.



*“Coming in with a BS in public health and several years experience working for health departments, I still left each day with tremendous knowledge. EPH looked impressive on my resume; all employers knew this was an intense program.”*

Ruchi Pancholy, REHS  
Foodborne Disease Surveillance & Response Coordinator, Hawaii Dept. of Health

# Prerequisites

## **To enroll in EPH, applicants must have:**

- 32 credits in biological, physical, chemical, or environmental sciences
- Above must include a lab course; no grades below a C accepted
- A minimum of 90 college credits overall

Courses in biology and chemistry are strongly recommended. If you lack 32 science credits, you may be able to earn up to three (3) science credits by completing EPH plus additional course work. Additional fees, paid to **Rutgers Summer Session**, will apply. Please contact us if interested in this option.

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# Admission Process

## **Step 1: Fill out the “Risk Free” Evaluation Form on the EPH website.**

[www.cpe.rutgers.edu/EPH/application.html](http://www.cpe.rutgers.edu/EPH/application.html)

## **Step 2: Submit your unofficial college transcript(s) for review**

Send your transcript with your name, phone number, and email to Rutgers.

**Email (preferred method):** [eph@njaes.rutgers.edu](mailto:eph@njaes.rutgers.edu)

**Mail:** Rutgers OCPE (Attn: EPH) 102 Ryders Lane, New Brunswick, NJ 08901

## **Step 3: Find out your eligibility status.**

After evaluating your transcript(s), we will tell you if you qualify for the EPH program. If you don't yet qualify, we will advise you on courses that will enable you to enroll and best prepare you for success in EPH and an REHS career.

## **Step 3: Register for EPH.**

Once you qualify, complete the EPH Registration Form (we will provide), and submit with your **official** transcript(s) and the \$50 non-refundable application fee.

## **Enrollment Deadline: May 15, 2021**

The EPH program typically fills to capacity by April. Enrollments will be accepted until May 15, if seats are available. After May 15, new applicants will be placed on a waiting list in the event that a registrant withdraws.

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# Completion Requirements

To complete EPH and sit for the [NJ REHS Licensing Exam](#), students must pass EPH with a grade of 70% or better, successfully complete the internship requirements, and hold a bachelor's degree. Our office helps EPH graduates with the application process for the NJ REHS exam.