

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Statement of Duties

Position Title:	Principal Health Physicist
Position Number:	501055
Classification:	Allied Health Professional Level 5 Grade 3-4 Specialist
Award/Agreement:	Allied Health Professionals Public Sector Unions Wages Agreement
Group/Section:	Public Health Services – Health Protection Radiation Protection
Position Type:	Permanent, Full Time
Location:	South
Reports to:	Environmental Health Director
Effective Date:	August 2024
Check Type:	Annulled
Check Frequency:	Pre-employment
Essential Requirements:	<p>Tertiary qualification/program of study in physics or a related discipline from a recognised tertiary institution</p> <p>Eligible for appointment as an Authorised officer under the <i>Radiation Protection Act 2005</i></p> <p>An honours degree in physics or related discipline and at least 8 years relevant post graduate experience.</p> <p><i>*Registration/licences that are essential requirements of this role must remain current and valid at all times whilst employed in this role and the status of these may be checked at any time during employment. It is the employee's responsibility to ensure that registration/licences remain current and to advise the Employer if their circumstances change. This includes notifying the Employer if a registration/licence is revoked, cancelled or has its conditions altered.</i></p>
Desirable Requirements:	<p>Additional studies in health physics such as a Master's degree or PhD</p> <p>Current Driver's Licence</p> <p>Relevant Postgraduate Qualifications</p>
Position Features:	Some interstate and intrastate travel will be required.

Note: The above details in relation to Location, Position Type and Work Pattern may differ when this position is advertised – please refer to these details within the actual advert. The remainder of the content of this Statement of Duties applies to all advertised positions.

Primary Purpose:

The Principal Health Physicist is the principal advisor in relation to the application of the *Radiation Protection Act 2005* as it relates to regulating dealings with radiation sources in Tasmania, including their supply, possession, storage, use and disposal, radiation protection responses in radiological emergencies, and radioactive waste management.

The position is responsible for ensuring statewide compliance with the legislation across all relevant Government Agencies and in medical, veterinary, dental, industrial and educational settings. The position also manages the Radiation Protection Team.

Duties:

1. Provide expert and authoritative professional specialist advice to the Minister, Secretary, Director of Public Health and the Radiation Advisory Council in relation to the effective management of dealings with radiation sources (both ionising and non-ionising) in Tasmania, including their supply, possession, storage, use and disposal.
2. Drive the development and implementation of policies and legislation regulating radiation sources (both ionising and non-ionising) in Tasmania, including their supply, possession, storage, use and disposal in accordance with best radiation protection practice and standards.
3. Provide leadership and influence to establish goals and strategies for the long term sustainable effectiveness of policy, networks, partnerships, and innovative approaches that support organisational objectives.
4. Develop and maintain strong communication links through effective consultation with a wide range of organisations and individuals who are affected by regulatory policies and legislation, including other Government agencies, professional organisations, registration boards, industry organisations, manufacturers, hospitals, professional practitioners and the public.
5. Manage the operational functions undertaken by the Radiation Protection Team within Public Health Services, including complex investigations, research and other projects aimed at achieving compliance with the legislative and policy framework.
6. Conduct and facilitate undergraduate education and educational programs for diverse practitioner groups and other organisations, including those involved in emergency response, for which radiation sources play a significant role.
7. Manage the human, physical, financial and information resources of the Radiation Protection Unit to ensure effective and efficient service delivery.
8. Represent the Radiation Protection Unit, Public Health Services and the Agency on National and State fora, working parties, appropriate professional and health care bodies and with other external stakeholders.
9. Actively participate in and contribute to the organisation's Quality & Safety and Work Health & Safety processes, including in the development and implementation of safety systems, improvement initiatives, safeguarding practices for vulnerable people, and related training.
10. The incumbent can expect to be allocated duties, not specifically mentioned in this document, that are within the capacity, qualifications and experience normally expected from persons occupying positions at this classification level.

Key Accountabilities and Responsibilities:

The Principal Health Physicist exercises statutory powers in accordance with the *Radiation Protection Act 2005* and administrative authorities, and functional arrangements mandated by statutory office holders including the Director of Public Health. The occupant will:

- Be responsible to the Environmental Health Director and the Director of Public Health for leading, developing and implementing policy, and business, quality and safety improvements related to regulating radiation sources (both ionising and non-ionising) in Tasmania, including their supply, possession, storage, use and disposal.
- Operate with a high degree of independence and autonomy in determining the overall priorities and strategies for the Radiation protection functions of Public Health Services.
- Exercise high level, strategic judgement in making decisions regarding the regulation of radiation sources that have a high impact on the Tasmanian Government, the Agency, public and private health sector providers, industry suppliers and the wider Tasmanian community.
- Champion a child safe culture that upholds the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations. The Department is committed to the safety, wellbeing, and empowerment of all children and young people, and expect all employees to actively participate in and contribute to our rights-based approach to care, including meeting all mandatory reporting obligations.
- Where applicable, exercise delegations in accordance with a range of Acts, Regulations, Awards, administrative authorities and functional arrangements as mandated by Statutory office holders including the Secretary and Head of State Service. The relevant Unit Manager can provide details to the occupant of delegations applicable to this position.
- Comply at all times with policy and protocol requirements, including those relating to mandatory education, training and assessment.

Pre-employment Conditions:

It is the Employee's responsibility to notify an Employer of any new criminal convictions during the course of their employment with the Department.

The Head of the State Service has determined that the person nominated for this job is to satisfy a pre-employment check before taking up the appointment, on promotion or transfer. The following checks are to be conducted:

1. Conviction checks in the following areas:
 - a. crimes of violence
 - b. sex related offences
 - c. serious drug offences
 - d. crimes involving dishonesty
2. Identification check
3. Disciplinary action in previous employment check.

Selection Criteria:

1. The proven capacity to provide strong professional leadership, vision and a contemporary approach to radiation protection strategies, directions and priorities.
2. Demonstrated outstanding strategic planning and research, conceptual, analytical and creative skills with broad experience in policy development and implementation in regard to regulatory affairs and radiation protection.
3. Comprehensive understanding of the application and enforcement of relevant radiation protection legislation applicable to the control of radiation sources.
4. Extensive knowledge of radiation protection evidenced by national recognition in this area.
5. High level communication skills including experience in providing authoritative technical advice to senior executive management to effectively negotiate outcomes within a politically sensitive environment.
6. Demonstrated capability to manage human, physical and financial resources, including effective management, administrative and strategic skills to support the Unit's operational and organisational objectives.
7. Experience in contributing to the development and mentoring of other health professionals.

Working Environment:

The Department of Health is committed to improving the health and wellbeing of patients, clients and the Tasmanian community through a sustainable, high quality and safe health system. We value leading with purpose, being creative and innovative, acting with integrity, being accountable and being collegial.

The Department of Health is committed to improving the way we work with vulnerable people, in particular implementing strategies and actions to promote child safety and wellbeing, empower, and prevent harm to children and young people.

The Department upholds the *Australian Charter of Healthcare Rights* in our practice and is committed to the safeguarding and protection of the welfare and rights of all people, particularly those that may be at risk of abuse, neglect, or exploitation. We place emphasis on the provision of culturally safe, respectful, and inclusive care that is responsive to diverse needs.

The Department seeks to provide an environment that supports safe work practices, diversity and respect, including with employment opportunities and ongoing learning and development. We value the diverse backgrounds, skills and contributions of all employees and treat each other and members of the community with respect. We do not tolerate discrimination, harassment or bullying in the workplace. All employees must uphold the *State Service Principles* and *Code of Conduct* which are found in the *State Service Act 2000*. The Department supports the [Consumer and Community Engagement Principles | Tasmanian Department of Health](#).