



Chartered
Institute of
Environmental
Health

Welcome to Environmental Health

Introducing the CIEH

2009

Welcome to the world of environmental health

Welcome to environmental health – you have made a great choice of career.

This booklet is intended to give you some basic information about the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health (CIEH), the qualification process and who you can turn to for assistance during your journey to qualification.

It is probable that you will have received this booklet very shortly after joining your chosen course at university or college. Life will be quite fast moving at present and you'll be bombarded with paper and other information. Please don't try to remember everything in this booklet but use it as a reference document over the next few months.

The Chartered Institute of Environmental Health (CIEH)

The mission of the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health is to maintain, enhance and promote improvements in public and environmental health

The first thing you must do is to become a student member of the CIEH. Student membership is free. There are no strings attached so you've nothing to lose and everything to gain from being a member. The benefits of membership will commence once your application is processed. As a student you will have considerable support available to you both through our network of branches and regions and via our headquarters-based services.

Once you become a member you will receive regular publications – magazines and newsletters. You will also be entitled to attend various meetings, study groups, training sessions etc. These are all good ways of keeping in touch with colleagues and keeping abreast of developments in environmental health.

The CIEH is a non-governmental organisation dedicated to the promotion of environmental health and the dissemination of knowledge about environmental health issues for the benefit of the public. It is also responsible for the training and professional development of environmental health practitioners and provides educational services to the profession. Founded in 1883 it was granted a Royal Charter in 1984.

CIEH is a registered charity and is a founder member of the International Federation of Environmental Health (IFEH).

CIEH currently has over 10,500 members worldwide. Whilst many environmental health practitioners work in local government, an increasing number (around 40%) work in commerce, industry, government departments and the Armed Forces. Others work privately as consultants or trainers and some in posts overseas.

It undertakes research into environmental health issues and is a Collaborating Centre of the World Health Organisation.

The CIEH library at Chadwick Court specialises in environmental health materials. The library is open, by appointment, to members (including student members) of the CIEH and to those engaged in environmental health research. The opening hours are 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m., Mondays to Fridays (exc. Bank Holidays). Lending facilities are not available but there are facilities for photocopying. [.cieh.org/policy/library.html](http://cieh.org/policy/library.html)

The CIEH Regional network is structured into 12 Regions and three 'Special Interest' Groups (Port Health, Commercial and Independent and International.) Each region has its own website and, as a member, you can access any or all of these. Web addresses for the regions and SIGs can be found on the main CIEH website – [.cieh.org](http://cieh.org)

Trustees, elected by the membership, form the Council of the CIEH, which is the managing body of the organisation.

As a student member you have a part to play in your organisation and you can learn a lot by attending CIEH meetings in your Region (and in other regions.) You will be encouraged to contribute to discussion and you can let your feelings be known – positive thought and constructive criticism are always welcome.

Remember - Student membership of the CIEH is free and it is in your own interest that you become a member!

Who we are

A little about the CIEH staff – you are likely to come across some of us as you progress through your studies.

Our Chief Executive is Graham Jukes

In order to recognise the special needs of areas having devolved assemblies, we have two Regional Directors – Gary McFarlane (Northern Ireland) and Julie Barratt (Wales). CIEH also has a Policy Officer for London - Tay Potier.

Education Staff – some of these people you will certainly come across!!

Principle Education Officer	Tony Lewis
Education Officer	Nick Bannister
Administration Manager	Dee Jones
Membership Manager	Jon Buttolph
Membership Officer	Reuben Runghasawmi

Environmental Health Registration Board (EHRB)

The EHRB is the body responsible for registering qualified environmental health practitioners. Following successful completion of your academic and professional examinations and assessments you will be awarded the Certificate of Registration of the EHRB.

New Professionals website

This is an independent website run by New Professionals for New professionals. Visit [.ehnewprofessionals.com](http://ehnewprofessionals.com) – registration is free.

The website enables you to share advice and tips about university, work-based learning, the Professional Exams or gossip about the latest news in the world of environmental health.

Becoming an Environmental Health Practitioner

To enable you to practice as an Environmental Health Practitioner (EHP) in the United Kingdom you must obtain the Certificate of Registration of the Environmental Health Registration Board (EHRB).

In order to be awarded the EHRB Certificate of Registration you need to have:

- been awarded a degree accredited by the CIEH, and
- passed their ELP assessment, and
- passed the CIEH Professional Examination, and
- passed a practical food inspection examination accredited by the CIEH.

This may sound a lot, particularly at this stage of your studies, but the time will soon pass and the vast majority of students qualify with very few problems.

Work-Based Learning and the Experiential Learning Portfolio (ELP)

As you will have seen above one of the elements towards obtaining your Certificate of Registration is the successful completion of a work-based Experiential Learning Portfolio.

Full details of the ELP can be downloaded as soon as you're ready to do so from the CIEH website – look for the document "Success in Experiential Learning" and the associated matrices.

You can undertake your work-based learning whenever and wherever you like.

It is possible that you will follow the 'traditional' route of taking a 'third year out' from academic studies to work within a local authority environmental health department. However this is not the only route and many opportunities exist for part time or 'end on' training. Several private sector organisations such as consultancies, large supermarket or hotel chains, industrial organisations, and some central government departments – e.g. DEFRA, HSE, FSA, - can and do provide opportunities for appropriate work based learning.

The only criterion is that the organisation(s) for which you work must deliver an aspect of environmental health.

Student registration with EHRB

Once you have completed your ELP but before it is submitted for assessment you must register as a student with the Environmental Health Registration Board

To register – If you are on a BSc route then complete Registration Form SR3B - If you are on an MSc route then complete Registration Form SR3M. These forms are usually available via your university course leader or are obtainable from the CIEH website.

NOTE: Registering with EHRB is not the same as becoming a student member of CIEH

The Student Mentoring Scheme

In order to assist you in completion of your ELP the Chartered Institute runs a mentoring scheme, details of which can be obtained from the CIEH's Education Unit

Mentors are appointed ELP assessors who have volunteered to give up their time to help students in developing their Experiential Learning Portfolio. And they are human!!

You are recommended to use the mentoring scheme relatively 'early on' in the life of your work-based learning to ensure you are going in the right direction – at the early stage any mistakes can be corrected without too many problems!

Please bear in mind that the mentor does not replace your training officer – the mentor is an 'added extra!' – and the scheme is free!!

There are also a series of workshops for students and training officers dealing with all elements of the professional examinations – these are held in all regions

Contacting Us

Chartered Institute of Environmental Health
Chadwick Court
15 Hatfields
London
SE1 8DJ

Tel: 0207 928 6006

Fax: 0207 928 6953

By Email: [@cieh.org](mailto:info@cieh.org)

For Finding Out, downloading ELP details, Registration documents etc.

The CIEH website - [.cieh.org](http://www.cieh.org)