

DESCRIPTION OF WORK:



Are you passionate about the environment and want to make a difference?
DEQ has an open opportunity for an **Information and Communications Specialist 1**.

This position is an entry level Information and Communications Specialist position located in the Central Office (CO) and will work in the areas of air quality education/outreach. This position requires the understanding and dissemination of scientific knowledge regarding chemistry and combustion of pollutants, air pollution sources and solutions, meteorology, different mobile sources and how they impact air quality.

NOTE: This is a temporary position for 2 – 3 years.

Key Responsibilities:

- Responsible for supporting air quality education and outreach activities, delivering lessons and activities to NC students, and communicating NC Air Awareness messages to the public.
- Provides scientific air quality activities, webinars, science and summer camps, after school programs, and teacher workshops.
 - Provides opportunities for underserved populations to learn about air pollution.
 - Develops partnerships with school systems in NC to include traditional and non-traditional teaching formats
- Plans and participates in community events, such as fairs, festivals, summits and Earth Day celebrations for the public to learn about the science of air quality and impacts on health, air quality forecasts and the steps people can take to maintain air quality.
- Provides support to the business community regarding air quality outreach.
 - Actively seeks and partners with NC businesses about air quality to encourage voluntary actions that reduce emissions from the transportation sector and energy systems.
- A valid NC Real ID Driver's License is required. You must be able to obtain within 6 months of hire and maintain for employment.
- Some weekend and some evening and night work may be required
- Perform other duties as required by NC Air Awareness education and outreach team.

The Division of Air Quality:

The Division of Air Quality (DAQ) works with the state's citizens to protect and improve outdoor, or ambient, air quality in North Carolina for the health, benefit and economic well-being of all. To carry out this mission, the DAQ operates a statewide air quality monitoring network to measure the level of pollutants in the outdoor air, develops and implements plans to meet future air quality initiatives, assures compliance with air quality rules, and educates, informs and assists the public with regard to air quality issues. Click here to learn more about the [Division of Air Quality](#).

This position will support the NC Air Awareness. N.C. Air Awareness is a public outreach and education program of the North Carolina Division of Air Quality (DAQ). The goal of the program is to reduce air pollution through voluntary actions by individuals and organizations. The program seeks to educate individuals about the sources of air pollution and explain how the health effects of air pollution can be minimized by modification of outdoor activities on ozone action days. In addition, the program aims to inform the public of ways to minimize production of air pollutants to improve air quality over time. Learn more at <https://deq.nc.gov/ncairawareness>

The NC Department of Environmental Quality:

The primary mission of the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is to provide science-based environmental stewardship for the health and prosperity of all North Carolinians. The North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is the lead stewardship agency for the protection of North Carolina's environmental resources. The organization, which has offices from the mountains to the coast, administers regulatory programs designed to protect air quality, water quality, and the public's health, and works to advance in all-of-the-above energy strategy that fits North Carolina's needs. DEQ also offers technical assistance to businesses, farmers, local governments, and the public and encourages responsible behavior with respect to the environment through education programs provided at DEQ facilities and through the state's school system. DEQ touches the lives of all North Carolinians in many ways to enhance and ensure our quality of life. Please visit our website at the [Department of Environmental Quality](https://deq.nc.gov) for more information.

Recruitment Range: \$19.00 / hr

This position is located at: 217 W. Jones Street, Raleigh NC 27603

This is a full time, 40 hrs per week, position filled through [Temporary Solutions](#)

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES / COMPETENCIES:

The Knowledge, Skills and Abilities desired for the position including:

- Ability to demonstrate an understanding of the science related to environment or natural resources education
- Experience communicating information to a variety of audiences
- Environmental education activity demonstrations and/or development experience
- Teaching or instruction experience
- Proficient in disseminating scientific and technical information on multi-media platforms (e.g. Facebook, Twitter)

Management Preferences (Optional):

- Recent or former educator/teacher with experience in science education
- Teaching experience in formal or informal setting
- Applicant with strong written and oral communication skills

MINIMUM EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS:

Bachelor's degree with a major in one of the education, agriculture, biological, environmental, natural resources sciences or closely related curriculum and/or two years of experience related to the area of assignment; or an

equivalent combination of training and experience that provides the employees functional work experiences needed to perform the work of the position.

SUPPLEMENTAL AND CONTACT INFORMATION:

The North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is an Equal Opportunity Employer who embraces an Employment First philosophy which consists of complying with all federal laws, state laws and Executive Orders.

DEQ uses the Merit-Based Recruitment and Selection Plan to fill positions subject to the State Human Resources Act. Hiring salary will be based on relevant qualifications, internal equity, and budgetary considerations pertinent to the advertised position.

- Applicants seeking Veteran's Preference must attach a DD-214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty, to their applications. Please contact robin.barrows@ncdenr.gov with questions.
- If applicants earned college credit hours but did not complete a degree program, they must attach an official transcript to each application to receive credit for this education.

OTHER QUALIFICATIONS

- Be at least 18 years of age
- Valid drivers license and be able to drive to events, setup, breakdown tables, etc. to deliver in person programming.
- Willing to work with children and adults
- Positive attitude in working with the public, staff, and volunteers
- Possesses competent computer skills with proficiency in MS Office Suite (Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Sharepoint, Teams)
- Able to work independently and with a team
- Ability to lift 50lbs
- Ability to sit, stand, bend, and stoop
- Ability to work inside, outside and occasionally in remote locations for several hours a day

HOW TO APPLY

- Cover letter, resume, and list of three references should be emailed to robin.barrows@ncdenr.gov