

Epidemiologist Job Description

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Oversee the planning for the study of public health problems such as disease outbreak
- Collect and analyze data obtained from interview, surveys, and sample tests to determine the cause of a health problem
- Collaborate with physicians and other public health experts to identify the cause and treatment for disease
- Proffer recommendations useful in the design, management and assessment of study protocols and sample analysis
- Carry out research to develop instrumentation and methodologies for analyzing data and presenting findings
- Advise government health officials, physicians and researchers on epidemiology topics
- Analyze public health issues as a result of foodborne microbes to produce information useful in making public policies
- Organize programs to educate the public on ways to prevent disease contamination and spread
- Analyze and interpret epidemiological statistics and data to produce results useful in developing cure for diseases
- Assess the impact of industrial chemicals and toxic wastes on the environment
- Propose preventive or corrective solutions to address public health problems based on research results
- Utilize specialized statistical computer software in analyzing and interpreting epidemiological data
- Prepare and present reports of findings to appropriate public health authority
- Maintain up-to-date knowledge of techniques for research and disease analysis.

Epidemiologist Requirements – Skills, Knowledge, and Abilities

- Education and Training: To become an epidemiologist, you require a Bachelor's degree in epidemiology and subsequently a Master's degree in epidemiology or related public health discipline. Some employers often require epidemiologists to have a Ph.D. in their field. Prior to graduation, epidemiology students usually embark on a year training program under the Center for Disease Control (CDC) Experience Applied Epidemiology Fellowship to gain useful work experience
- Analytical skill: Epidemiologists are able to collect, analyze, and interpret data when assessing a public health issue
- Statistical skill: They are proficient in the use of statistical tools and techniques when carrying out surveys and studies
- Communication skill: They are able to relay research information to appropriate authorities using proper language and expression.