

## Possible Amendments to Rules Governing Registered Environmental Health Specialists/Registered Sanitarians (REHS/RS)

**Minnesota Rules, 4695.2500 - .3200; Revisor's Id Number: R-4175**

### Frequently Asked Questions

**Question:** Why is MDH still using registered environmental health specialist/registered sanitarian (REHS/RS) dually in the rule, instead of using only one title and corresponding initials?

**Answer:** The department sponsored a poll on this specific topic during the fall of 2020. The results did not indicate a strong preference for deleting the term registered sanitarian. You can view the poll results on our website at [Rule Amendments \(https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/sanitarian/rulerevision.html\)](https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/sanitarian/rulerevision.html). The rule does not require the use of a specific title or initials. Someone who is registered in accordance with this rule can use either title they wish. The advisory council agreed with leaving both titles in the rule.

**Question:** Why does Minnesota not use the National Environmental Health Association (NEHA) credentialing system?

**Answer:** The advisory council discussed this topic at a meeting. The council agreed on keeping the existing state process. The council's reasons were:

- the existing state process has been operating efficiently and effectively for many years;
- the existing state registration program fees are less than NEHA;
- NEHA requirements would not cover discipline or sanctions;
- existing NEHA qualifications are less stringent than Minnesota qualifications; and
- Minnesota has a long history of independently credentialing professions in addition to any national credential (for example: medical doctors and nurses).

Minnesota Department of Health  
Environmental Health | Sanitarian Program  
651-201-4500  
[www.health.state.mn.us](http://www.health.state.mn.us)

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