

## Public Health Officer

With a number of dynamic, world class initiatives currently in progress, there has never been a better time to become a Public Health Officer with Queensland Health.

### What do Public Health Officers do?

The prime responsibility of a Public Health Officer is to protect and promote health and prevent illness at the community or population level. Public Health Officers achieve this by designing, coordinating, implementing and evaluating a range of activities that are targeted at the population as a whole, or at specific at-risk sub-populations or communities.

Public Health Officers can work across a broad range of population health areas, or specialise in a particular area or on a particular issue.

Examples of the type of work a Public Health Officer might do include:

- Development, implementation and evaluation of social marketing campaigns, eg. stop smoking campaign (QUIT) or cancer screening (BreastScreen, Pap Smear)
- Prevention, management and control of communicable disease outbreaks, including mosquito surveillance and control activities
- Working with other government and non-government agencies to create environments which support healthy populations
- Participation in research and development initiatives which enhance population health service planning and outcomes
- Development of alternative service models to meet changing population health needs.

In instances where Public Health Officers focus on particular issues or sub-populations like those outlined above, the job title may vary to better reflect the role. For example, instead of Public Health Officer, their job title might be Vector Control Officer or Medical Entomologist.

### Entry Level Qualification for Public Health

Entry to the beginning practitioner level is via a Bachelor of Public Health (or equivalent).

Public Health Officers are a recognised profession under the *Health Practitioner Enterprise Agreement (Queensland Health) 2007*.

### Want to learn more?

Find out how you can make a real difference to the health of the community as a Public Health Officer. For more information on a rewarding and exciting career in Population Health visit us at:

[www.health.qld.gov.au/phcareers](http://www.health.qld.gov.au/phcareers)

