



**2019-2020 National Environmental Health Science
and Protection Accreditation Council (EHAC) Graduate
Programs Outcome Assessment Report**

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I. Introduction

This report details analysis of the data provided by former students of graduate programs seeking reaccreditation during the 2019-2020 academic year and their supervisors.

II. Background

EHAC Undergraduate Requirements Section VI. Reporting Obligations of Accredited and Pre-accredited Programs Part D. Program Outcomes Assessment Survey states that:

“At the time of reaccreditation, the institution shall survey program graduates and employers via the Council’s outcome assessment tool. All graduates since the last accreditation shall be in the pool of those to be surveyed. The completed tools shall be gathered by the institution and forwarded to the Executive Director of the Council six months prior to the annual meeting of the Council. The Council will supply a summary of the information gathered to all accredited programs on an annual basis.

The purpose of this survey is to determine the adequacy of the accreditation process to the needs of the professional practice of environmental health. The information gathered by an institution through the outcome assessment process will not be used as part of the evaluation review for reaccreditation purposes for a given institution. The Council will use the compiled information from all institutions undergoing reaccreditation to evaluate and consider changes to the requirements of accreditation.”

The outcome assessment tool consists of two surveys conducted via [surveymonkey.com](https://www.surveymonkey.com), one for current employees and the other for their supervisors. It is distributed to the reaccreditation candidate Program Directors for distribution to former students. The graduates then provide the survey link to their supervisors for survey completion.

III. Survey context and Summary

EHAC’s core mission is to accredit Environmental Health (EH) Programs that provide a scientifically rigorous and practical based education, which prepares graduates to enter the EH field “work force ready” and prepared to problem solve using critical thinking skills acquired during their university education. Toward this end, EHAC is continuously identifying strengths and weaknesses related to graduates successfully entering and progressing in the EH field of their choice. Survey responses from both graduates employed in the EH field (employees) and their supervisors assist EHAC in assessing and adapting Undergraduate Requirements and Graduate Guidelines for accreditation to the ever-evolving arena of Environmental Health.

Questions for both employees and their supervisors focus on assessing the adequacy and effectiveness of an employee’s knowledge, skills and abilities related to their EH job, with employees conducting self-assessments and supervisors evaluating their current employees.

As there was only one employee response from a former graduate student and no supervisors responses, the following provides a brief summary of the employee responses.

The employee is currently employed within the EH arena as a teaching assistant at an institution of higher education and was able to find employment within 3 months of graduation.

IV. Employee Survey Results

A. Employee Skills

1. Administrative and Interpersonal Skills:

- Most Proficient - IT/Computer and Technical Writing Skills
 - Working in a team setting
 - Leadership skills
 - Organizing workflow
 - Time management
 - Project planning and management
- Proficient - Public Speaking

2. Data Interpretation Skills:

- Most Proficient - Identifying reliable and relevant information
 - Drawing appropriate conclusions
- Very Proficient - Choosing and defending an appropriate course of action,
 - Conducting a statistical analysis and interpreting data
 - Applying research methods and problem solving

3. EH Specialty Areas:

- Very Proficient - Risk Assessment, Communication and Management
- Proficient - Epidemiology
 - Toxicology

B. Course Relevance

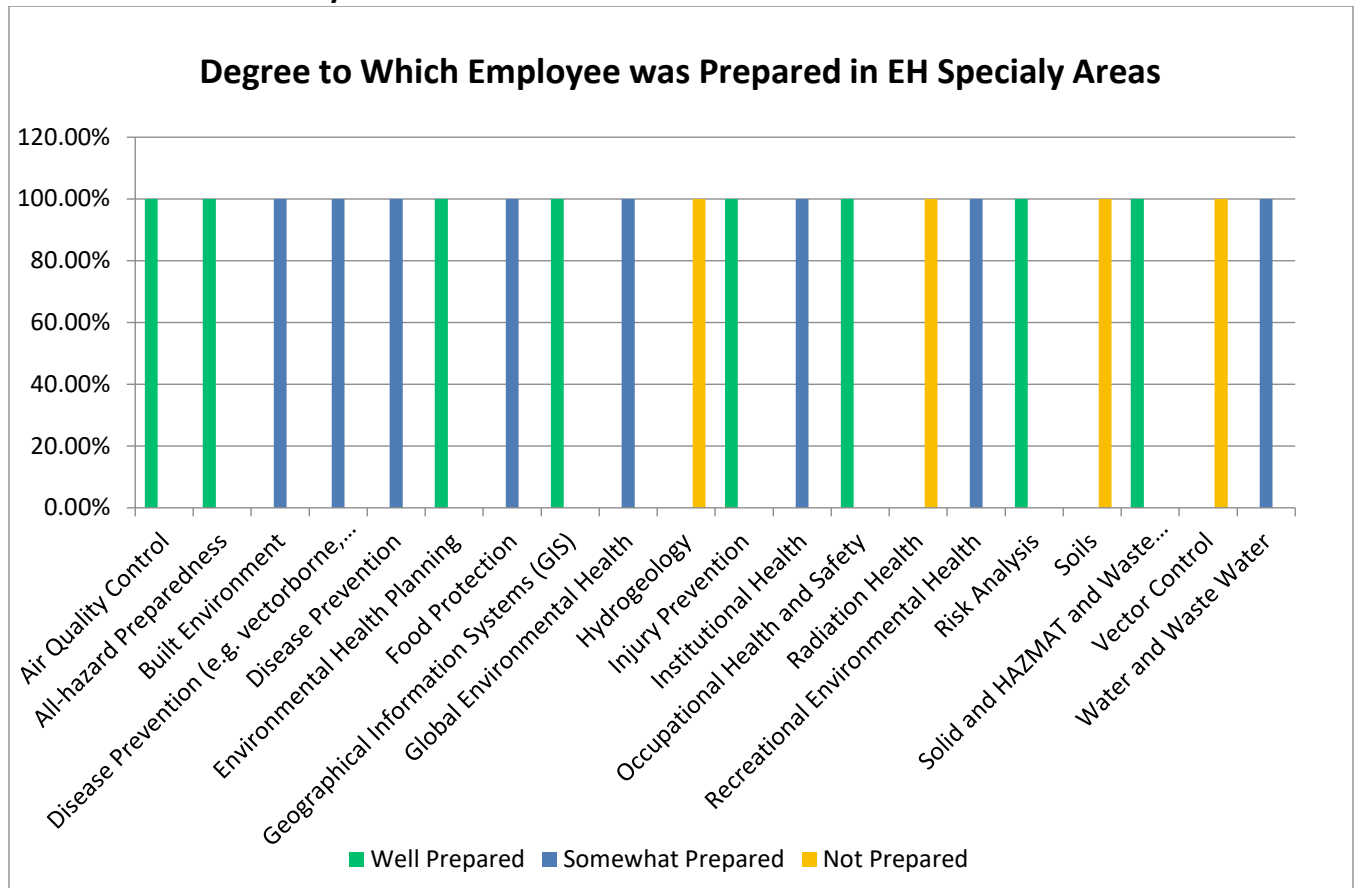
Employee respondents were asked to answer yes or no if their job requires knowledge in the following areas (Chart 5). The EH specialty areas cited as necessary by the graduate program respondent included:

- Injury Prevention
- Occupational Health and Safety

C. Specialty Area Program Preparation

Employee respondents were asked to answer yes or no if they were well-prepared in the following EH specialty areas by their graduate program. Chart 1 presents the employee's responses, showing employee preparedness in a majority of the EH specialty choices available.

Chart 1 shows the survey results



D. Credentials Achieved and Professional Organizations

The employee respondent has achieved HAZWOPER and OSHA 40 hour training certificates and is a member of the local American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA).