

Soil Scientist

Study soil characteristics and map soil types, and investigate responses of soils to known management practices to determine use capabilities of soils and effects of alternative practices on soil productivity. Classify soils according to standard types; conduct experiments on farms or experimental stations to determine best soil types for different plants; perform chemical analysis on microorganism content of soil; and investigate responses of specific soil types to tillage, fertilization, nutrient transformation, crop rotation, environmental consequences, water, gas or heat flow, industrial waste control, and other soil management practices. They also advise interested persons on rural or urban land use.

Legislation

Statutes: NH RSA 310-A:75-96
Administrative Rules: Chapter Soil 100 - 500

Regulatory Agency

New Hampshire Board of Natural Scientists
Office of Professional Licensure and Certification
7 Eagle Square
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

Certification Requirements

- Must have one of the following qualifications:

1. Be a graduate of an accredited four-year college curriculum leading to a baccalaureate degree, where the applicant successfully completed 30 semester hours in physical, biological and earth science, including 15 semester hours in soil science, and have a specific record of an additional three or more years' experience in the practice of soil science; or
2. Be a graduate of an accredited college curriculum leading to a baccalaureate or an Associate's degree, where the applicant has completed 15 semester hours in soil science, and have a specific record of additional four or more years of experience in the practice of soil science (experience includes teaching soil science courses at the postsecondary level, summer employment, or actual field mapping in an apprenticeship program; each advanced degree counts as one year of experience); or
3. Be a graduate of an accredited college curriculum leading to a baccalaureate or Associate's degree, or have earned the equivalent number of credits, and have a specific record of an additional six or more years in the practice of soil science
4. Must have completed these courses: Soil Genesis and Classification; Soil Morphology; and Soil Mapping

phone (603) 271-2152
fax (603) 271-6702
web <www.oplc.nh.gov/board-natural-scientists/>
contact OPLC - Board of Natural Scientists
e-mail naturalscience@oplc.nh.gov

Examination

Written and field examinations required, including reference to soil characteristics in the New England region.

Continuing Education

24 continuing education hours are required for renewal

Reciprocity

Not permitted

Fees

Written exam	\$125.00
Field exam	\$200.00
Biennial renewal	\$120.00
Certification as Soil Scientist	\$125.00
Certificate as apprentice	\$75.00
Replacement certificate	\$50.00

Certificates expire on the last day of the certificate holder's month of birth in the second year following year of issuance

Soil Scientist (continued)

Active Licenses

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Related Training

Soil Science and Agronomy, General; Soil Chemistry and Physics; Soil Microbiology

O*Net Codes

19-1013.00 Soil and Plant Scientists

Additional Information Sources

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
<www.nrcs.usda.gov>