



City of Sunnyvale Hazardous Materials Inspector

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| SALARY | \$66.83 - \$85.29 Hourly | LOCATION | Sunnyvale, CA |
| JOB TYPE | Full-Time | JOB NUMBER | 25-00176 |
| DEPARTMENT | Public Safety | DIVISION | Division of Fire & Environmental Services |
| OPENING DATE | 01/05/2026 | CLOSING DATE | 2/2/2026 5:00 PM Pacific |

Description

HAZARDOUS MATERIALS INSPECTOR

Regular, Full-Time Employment Opportunity

The position opens Monday, January 5, 2026 and the final filing date is Monday, February 2, 2026, at 5:00pm.

Come join Sunnyvale's Fire Prevention Division! We are looking to staff our Hazardous Materials Team that ensures compliance with applicable local, State and Federal regulations, codes, and laws as a Certified Unified Program Agency (CUPA) and enforce Fire Code elements. This position includes access to latest plan review technology, a chance to improve upon the databases, and the unique opportunity to provide the highest level of comprehensive hazardous materials program management within Silicon Valley.

City of Sunnyvale Benefits:

- CalPERS retirement pension
- Medical, dental, and vision benefits
- Retiree medical benefit
- 11 paid Holidays
- 30 hours* of Floating Holidays (*Prorated based on date of hire)
- Paid Time Off (PTO) accruals
- Employee Wellness Programs

For a complete job description, please click here: [Hazardous Materials Inspector](#)

Under direction from the Fire Marshal or designee (Assistant Fire Marshal, Senior Hazardous Materials Inspector, etc.), conducts routine and special inspections and investigations of facilities and sites where hazardous materials are stored and used; enforces applicable local, State and Federal regulations, codes, and laws; provides liaison with governmental agencies and monitors results of ongoing activities; and performs related duties.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS

The position of Hazardous Materials Inspector is a fully qualified professional classification. This classification differs from Fire Marshal in that the Fire Marshal has full supervisory responsibility.

Essential Job Functions

(May include, but are not limited to, the following):

- Conducts routine and special inspections of facilities that store or use hazardous materials in a regulated quantity; reviews plans and documents and issues permits to ensure compliance with applicable ordinances, laws, and regulations governing the storage, use, treatment, and disposal of hazardous materials.
- Updates and maintains permit and inspection files and databases to ensure that records of facilities reflect operations and status.
- Conducts investigations and initiates appropriate enforcement action to ensure compliance with ordinances, laws and regulations governing the handling, storage, use and/or disposal of hazardous materials.
- Provides technical support and advice regarding the storage, use, and disposal of chemical, biological, and microbiological agents.
- Monitors and tracks progress of locations and sites where hazardous materials and hazardous waste discharges have occurred.
- Conducts special studies and compiles program data.
- Serves as liaison to local, regional, and state agencies, as assigned.
- Develops, maintains and delivers training to the general public and colleagues on matters related to hazardous materials storage, use, treatment and disposal.
- Provides input at meetings with local, regional, and state officials regarding the City's positions on items of interest to the City.
- Responds to emergency situations involving actual or suspected hazardous materials and assists in coordinating actions to remedy the situation.

WORKING CONDITIONS

Position requires prolonged sitting, standing, walking on level, uneven and slippery surfaces, reaching, twisting, turning, kneeling, bending, squatting and stooping in the performance of daily activities. The position also requires grasping, repetitive hand movement and fine coordination in using a computer keyboard. The position also requires near and far vision when performing tasks such as field inspections, in reading written reports and work related documents and using a computer. Acute hearing is required when providing phone and personal customer service. The need to lift, drag, carry and push equipment, tools and supplies up to 25 pounds is also required. Additionally, when performing field inspections, the incumbent may be exposed to hazardous materials and work in a variety of working conditions, including loud noise and inclement weather conditions, such as wet, heat and cold. The nature of the work also requires the incumbent to climb ladders and steep slopes, and walk around worksites.

Minimum Qualifications

Education and Experience:

The minimum qualifications for education and experience can be met in the following way:

Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university in chemistry, biology, geology, environmental studies, or other related science associated with the study of hazardous materials or soil and groundwater contamination; AND

Two years of professional experience performing duties related to the mitigation and control of hazardous materials, including the application of codes and standards.

Knowledge of:

- Modern principles and practices of chemistry, biology, or geology as applied to regulated hazardous materials, hazardous wastes, and industrial wastes.
- Hazardous waste sampling techniques and analysis.
- Pertinent local, State and Federal laws, rules and regulations related to the storage, use, treatment, and disposal of hazardous materials.
- Proper use of laboratory equipment.
- Methods and procedures to monitor and track compliance with regulations, codes, and laws.
- Procedures associated with hazardous materials clean-up.
- Methods for sampling and interpreting laboratory tests on suspected discharges of hazardous materials.
- Office methods, procedures, software and equipment.

Ability to:

- Effectively enforce hazardous materials codes and standards.
- Conduct thorough inspections and prepare documentation.
- Create professional business correspondence, memoranda, reports, and other documentation.
- Deal tactfully and effectively with the public.
- Educate the public on matter of hazardous materials storage, handling, and disposal;
- Organize and keep accurate records of events.
- Operate a computer using word processing and business software and other office equipment.
- Understand and follow written and oral instructions.
- Communicate effectively, orally and in writing.
- Establish and maintain and promote positive and effective working relationships with employees, other agencies, and the public.
- Demonstrate initiative and exercise good judgment in the performance of duties.
- Work independently and as a team member; recognize and set priorities and meet deadlines.
- Observe safety principles and work in a safe manner.

Willingness to:

- Work in, with, and around hazardous substances.
- Travel to remote sites within the City to conduct inspections of discharges of suspected hazardous materials.
- Respond to emergencies associated with hazardous materials at any time of the day or night.
- Wear a respirator or breathing apparatus, and protective clothing and equipment.
- Wear a uniform.

Licenses/Certificates:

Possession and continued maintenance of a valid class C California driver's license and a safe driving record.

Possession of, or ability to obtain within 6 months of appointment, ICC Underground Storage Tank (UST) Inspector, Self-Certified Aboveground Petroleum Storage Act (APSA) Tank Inspector, and Hazardous Waste Operation Emergency Response (HAZWOPER) certifications.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS

- Previous experience working for a municipality.

Application and Selection Process

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS & PROCESS

The application submitted must meet the minimum qualifications listed in the job description in order to move forward in the recruitment process with the City of Sunnyvale. The information provided in the Work Experience, Education, and Certificates/Licenses sections of the application will be used to determine if the application meets the minimum qualifications. A resume, employment history provided elsewhere in the application, or other attachments will not be accepted in lieu of the completed application.

Note: The minimum qualifications for experience are based on full-time experience (40 hours per week). Experience included in the Work Experience section of the application is calculated to the full-time equivalent (hours are pro-rated if less than 40 hours/week). Volunteer experience is not considered qualifying experience.

If you are interested in this opportunity, please submit a City of Sunnyvale employment application and responses to the supplemental questions to the Department of Human Resources **by Monday, February 2, 2026 at 5:00pm.**

Candidates are asked to fully describe any training, education, experience, or skills relevant to this position. Electronic applications may be submitted online through the City's employment page at Sunnyvale.ca.gov and click on JOBS. Late or incomplete applications will not be accepted.

EXAM PROCESS

Applications will be competitively screened based on the minimum qualifications of this position. Based upon a review of the application materials, the most qualified candidates will be invited to participate in the **oral examination process scheduled for Tuesday, February 24, 2026.** (Note: The examination process may be changed as deemed necessary by the Director of Human Resources.)

SELECTION PROCESS

Those candidates that receive a passing score on the examination will be placed on an eligibility list for up to one year, in accordance with the City's Civil Service Rules and Administrative Policies. **Top candidates on the eligibility list will be invited to participate in a selection interview with the department.**

Any candidate that is selected by the hiring department will be required to successfully complete a pre-employment process, which may consist of a background history check, as well as a medical exam(s) administered by a City selected physician(s) before hire. Prior to starting work, all newly-hired employees will be fingerprinted to check conviction history. A conviction history will not necessarily disqualify an applicant from appointment; however, failure to disclose conviction history will result in refusal of employment or termination. Positions which are covered by the Department of Transportation regulations are required to submit to a pre-employment drug test and to random drug and alcohol testing.

A valid California Class C driver's license and a safe driving record is required for this position at the time of appointment. Should you move forward to be hired for this position, you will be required to turn in a current copy of your DMV driving record.

INFORMATION ABOUT PROOF OF EDUCATION

Any successful candidate, selected by the hiring department will be required to submit proof of education (i.e. original copy of the diploma or college/university transcripts). A candidate with education obtained outside the United States must have education records evaluated by a credential evaluation service at the candidate's expense to determine its equivalency in the United States. Candidates may utilize any third-party agency for the evaluation. If you search 'education equivalency verification' or similar online, you will obtain results for agencies that provide this evaluation service.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Positions in this job classification are represented by the [Sunnyvale Employees Association \(SEA\)](#).

For assistance on how to fill out your job application, watch the following video:

- [How to Apply for a City of Sunnyvale Job](#)- YouTube (5:13)

The information contained within this announcement may be modified or revoked without notice and does not constitute either an expressed or implied contract.

The City of Sunnyvale is an equal opportunity employer. Applicants for all job openings will be considered without regard to age, race, color, religion, sex, national origin, sexual orientation, disability, veteran status, or any other consideration made unlawful under any federal, state, or local laws. The City of Sunnyvale is committed to offering reasonable accommodations to job applicants with disabilities. If you need assistance or an accommodation due to a disability, please contact us at (408) 730-7490 or recruitments@sunnyvale.ca.gov.

Employer

City of Sunnyvale

Address

456 W. Olive Avenue

Sunnyvale, California, 94086

Phone

408-730-7490

Website

<https://sunnyvale.ca.gov>

Hazardous Materials Inspector Supplemental Questionnaire

***QUESTION 1**

Instructions for completing the Supplemental Questionnaire: The following supplemental questions constitute an examination. Responses are reviewed and rated by Subject Matter Expert(s). The supplemental question examination determines the most qualified candidates to move forward in the recruitment process. The responses to the supplemental questions should be specific, thorough and must be reflected in the Work Experience, Education, and Certificates/Licenses sections of the application. Please note the information provided in the supplemental questions will not be accepted in lieu of the completed application. Incomplete responses, false statements, copying and pasting responses from Artificial Intelligence (AI) programs, and/or entering “See Resume” will result in an incomplete application and/or disqualification from the recruitment process. Please be advised that you will be 'timed out' of this page after 30 minutes. It is recommended to copy the supplemental questions that require text answers into a document that you can save on your computer. Prepare your responses in that document and then copy and paste the responses into the spaces provided. Additionally, please save your work continuously. By checking the 'Yes' response below, I indicate that I have read the instructions for completing the application (located in the job posting) and supplemental questionnaire. In accordance with these instructions, I understand that a completed application and written responses to the supplemental questionnaire are required. I understand the completed application and supplemental question responses will be used to evaluate my qualifications for this position and further identify the most qualified candidates to continue in the recruitment process. Additionally, I certify that I have completed the application and supplemental questionnaire on my own; the information provided accurately reflects my training, education and experience; and I understand the information provided is subject to verification.

☐ Yes

☐ No

***QUESTION 2**

Do you have a bachelor's degree or higher from an accredited college or university in chemistry, biology, geology, environmental studies, or other related science associated with the study of hazardous materials or soil and groundwater contamination?

☐ Yes

☐ No

***QUESTION 3**

Do you have at least 2 years of professional experience performing duties related to the mitigation and control of hazardous materials, including the application of codes and standards? If yes, please describe your applicable professional experience below. Include in your response your experience in applying and enforcing related laws, codes, ordinances or standards. If no, please enter N/A in the space below.

***QUESTION 4**

Do you have experience related to Certified Unified Program Agencies (CUPA) and/or hazardous materials within the Fire Code? If yes, please describe your applicable experience below. Include in your response which program(s) you have experience in and what role(s) or task(s) you have had within those program(s). If no, please enter N/A in the space below.

***QUESTION 5**

Please describe your professional experience with public education and/or public outreach. Include in your response the frequency of your interactions with the public and audience(s). If you do not have this experience, please enter N/A in the space below.

***QUESTION 6**

A valid California Class C driver's license is required for this position at time of appointment. Do you possess a valid California Class C driver's license with a safe driving record?

☐ Yes

☐ No

***QUESTION 7**

Do you currently possess or are you able to obtain within 6 months of appointment the following: ICC Underground Storage Tank (UST) Inspector, Self-Certified Aboveground Petroleum Storage Act (APSA) Tank Inspector, and Hazardous Waste Operation Emergency Response (HAZWOPER) certifications?

☐ Yes

☐ No

*** Required Question**