

Lead Air Quality Meteorologist/Modeler (Natural Resource Scientist 4)

[Application Link](#)

Salary

\$67,560.00 - \$88,644.00 Annually

Location

Thurston County – Lacey, WA

Job Type

Full Time - Permanent

Department

Dept. of Ecology

Job Number

2021-AQ2897-12480

Closing

Continuous



Per Governor Inslee's [Proclamation 21-14.2 \(Download PDF reader\)](#), Washington State employees must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19. As a condition of employment, the successful candidate will be required to provide proof of their COVID-19 Vaccination as part of the hire process, prior to their start date. Requests for medical and religious exemptions will be considered. If you have questions, please contact Careers@ecy.wa.gov with "**COVID-19 Vaccination**" in the subject line.

Keeping Washington Clean and Evergreen

The [Air Quality Program](#) (AQP) within the Department of Ecology is looking to fill a **Lead Air Quality Meteorologist/Modeler (Natural Resource Scientist 4)** position. This position is located in our Headquarters Office in [Lacey, WA](#).

As the lead air quality modeler, you will define research projects and provide expertise in developing modeling scenarios, researching air quality standard exceedances and analyzing results. You will evaluate Weather Research and Forecasting model runs and other meteorological products to improve statewide air quality forecasts. You will coordinate with National Weather Service, Regional Offices, Local Air Authorities and EPA in determining and evaluating air stagnation episodes and Participate with NW AIRQUEST consortium and the Northwest Regional Modeling Consortium.

The mission of the [Air Quality Program](#) (AQP) is to protect and improve air quality in Washington. The Air Quality Program's vision is clean, healthy air and climate for all of Washington. We have many goals to achieve this mission and vision.

Protecting Washington State's environment for current and future generations is what we do every day at Ecology. We are a culture that is invested in making a difference. Join a team that is highly effective and collaborative, with leadership that embrace the value of people.

Ecology cares deeply about employee wellness; we go beyond traditional benefits, proudly offering:

- A healthy life/work balance by offering flexible schedules and telework options for most positions.
- An Infants at Work Program that is based on the long-term health values of infant-parent bonding and breastfeeding newborns.
- Continuous growth and development opportunities.
- A wellness program that offers education, fitness classes, and an agency-wide fondness for outdoor meetings.
- Opportunities to serve your community and make an impact through meaningful work.

Diversity, equity, inclusion, and respect (DEIR) are core values central to Ecology's work. We strive to be a workplace where we are esteemed for sharing our authentic identities, while advancing our individual professional goals and collaborating to protect, preserve, and enhance the environment for current and future generations.

Diversity: We celebrate and appreciate diversity; our unique perspectives and abilities enrich us all and lead to innovative approaches and solutions.

Equity: We champion equity, recognizing that each of us need different things to thrive.

Inclusion: We intentionally create and hold space so that we all have meaningful opportunities to participate and contribute to Ecology's work.

Respect: We treat each other with respect and dignity, acknowledging the inherent worth of our diverse perspectives and lived experiences, even in times of uncertainty and disagreement.

We believe that DEIR is both a goal and an action. We are on a journey, honoring our shared humanity and taking steps to demonstrate our commitment to a vision where each of us is heard, seen, and valued.

During Healthy Washington Roadmap to Recovery, employees are working a combination of in-office and/or telework based on position and business need. Ecology is following current state guidance regarding building occupancy, mask requirements, health screening questions before entry, and social distancing.

Application Timeline: This position will remain open until filled, with an initial screening date of **November 15, 2021**. In order to be considered for initial screening, please submit an application on or before **November 14, 2021**. The agency reserves the right to make an appointment any time after the initial screening date.

Duties



What makes this role unique?

In this role, you will serve as the agency's air quality modeling expert independently performing original scientific research, publication of research findings in support of agency scientific programs and activities within the highest level of air quality modeling expertise within the broader scientific community.

What you'll do:

- Oversee and provide technical support for Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) permits, air toxics, and Notice of Construction (NOC) permitting.
- Provide technical expertise for AQP policy development, including modeling for assessing efficacy of various control strategies.
- Plan, facilitate and attend meetings, to ensure work efforts are coordinated and stay updated on related projects.
- Provide technical assistance to facilities and affected public in interpretation of air quality laws and regulations, model results and air quality data.
- Develop data visualizations and briefing presentations and proposals on approaches to research air pollution events, assess model performance, and communicate forecasts and health risks to the public.

Qualifications

Required Qualifications:

Experience for both required and desired qualifications can be gained through various combinations of formal professional employment, educational and volunteer experience. See below for how you may qualify.

Option 1: A Bachelor's degree with a major study in a natural science **AND** Six years professional research work experience in atmospheric science.

Option 2: A Master's degree with a major study in natural science, provided the field of major study was in air quality modeling **AND** Four years professional research work experience in atmospheric science.

Option 3: A Ph.D. with a major study in a natural science, provided the field of major study was in air quality modeling **AND** Three years professional research work experience in atmospheric science.

In addition to the above, this position requires:

- Previous experience investigating and the air transport and dispersion of emissions from sources ranging from neutrally buoyant surface releases to the highly buoyant plumes from field and forest fires and how they are affected by synoptic, mesoscale, and microscale meteorology.
- Previous experience using meteorological and air quality chemical-dispersion models to predict weather and air quality for both short-term episode forecasting and long-term planning and regulatory purposes.
- Previous experience working with big data using advanced statistical programming languages such as R or Python.

Special Requirements/Conditions of Employment:

- Must be able to obtain and maintain a valid state's drivers license.

Desired Qualifications:

We highly encourage you to apply even if you do not have some (or all) of the desired experience below.

- Expert level ability to use programming code in modeling evaluations.
- Advanced level experience using meteorological and air quality chemical-dispersion models to predict weather and air quality for both short-term episode forecasting and long-term planning and regulatory purposes.
- Demonstrated skill in writing and preparing presentations and scientific reports, and the ability to present technically complex information in a way that is understandable to the audience.

Note: Having some (or all) of this desired experience may make your application more competitive in a highly competitive applicant pool.

Supplemental Information

Ecology seeks diverse applicants: We view diversity, equity, inclusion, and respect through a broad lens including race, ethnicity, class, age, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, immigration status, military background, language,

education, life experience, physical disability, neurodiversity, and intersectional identities. Qualified candidates from all backgrounds are encouraged to apply.

Need an Accommodation in the application and/or screening process or this job announcement in an alternative format?

- Please call: (360) 407-6186 or email: careers@ecy.wa.gov and we will be happy to assist.
- If you are deaf or hard of hearing you can reach the Washington Relay Service by dialing 7-1-1 or 1-800-833-6388.
- If you need assistance applying for this job, please e-mail careers@ecy.wa.gov. Please do not send an email to this address to follow-up the status of your application. You can view the latest status of your application on your profile's main page.
- **If you are reading this announcement in print format**, please enter the following URL to your search engine to apply: <https://ecology.wa.gov/About-us/Get-to-know-us/Jobs-at-Ecology>.

Application Instructions:

It's in the applicant's best interest to **submit all of the documents listed below**. Applications without these documents may be declined.

- A cover letter describing why you are interested in this position.
- A resume outlining your experience and education (if applicable) as it relates to the minimum qualifications of this position.
- Three professional references.

Please do NOT include your salary history. Wage/salary depends on qualifications or rules of promotion, if applicable.

For Your Privacy:

When attaching documents to your application (Resume, Cover Letter, Transcripts, DD-214, etc.):

- Please be sure to remove private information such as your social security number, date of birth, etc.
- Do not attach documents that are password protected, as these documents may not be reviewed and may cause errors within your application when downloaded.

Additional Application Instructions for Current Ecology Employees:

Please make sure to answer the agency-wide questions regarding permanent status as a classified employee within the Washington General Service or Washington Management Service. Do not forget to select Department of Ecology as a response to question 2, and type your personnel ID number for question 3. If you are not sure of your status or do not know your personnel ID number, please contact Human Resources.

Application Attestation:

The act of submitting application materials electronically is considered affirmation that the information is complete and truthful. The state may verify this information and any untruthful or misleading answers are cause for rejection of your application or dismissal if employed.

Other Information:

If you have specific questions about the position, please email **Chris Hanlon-Meyer** at: chrh461@ECY.WA.GOV. Please do not contact **Chris** to inquire about the status of your application.

To request the full position description: email careers@ecy.wa.gov

Why work for Ecology?

As an agency, our mission is to protect, preserve and enhance Washington's environment for current and future generations. We invest in our employees to create and sustain a working environment that encourages creative leadership, effective resource management, teamwork, professionalism and accountability.

Joining Ecology means becoming a part of a team committed to protecting and restoring Washington State's environment. A career in public service allows you to help solve some of the most challenging problems facing our state, while keeping your health and financial security a priority. We combine one of the most competitive benefits packages in the nation with a strong commitment to life/work balance.

Ecology employees may be eligible for the following:

[Medical/Dental/Vision for employee & dependent\(s\)](#), [Public Employees Retirement System \(PERS\)](#), [Vacation, Sick, and other Leave*](#), [11 Paid Holidays per year*](#), [Public Service Loan Forgiveness](#), [Tuition Waiver](#), [Long Term Disability & Life Insurance](#), [Deferred Compensation Programs](#), [Dependent Care Assistance Program \(DCAP\)](#), [Flexible Spending Arrangement \(FSA\)](#), [Employee Assistance Program](#), [Commuter Trip Reduction Incentives \(Download PDF reader\)](#), [Combined Fund Drive](#), [SmartHealth](#) *See the Benefits tab in this announcement for more information

Student debt: how working for Ecology can help

The Department of Ecology is a qualifying employer for the Public Service Forgiveness Program (PSLF). See <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/repay-loans/forgiveness-cancellation/public-service> for more details.

To learn more about The Department of Ecology, please visit our website at www.ecology.wa.gov and follow, like or visit us on [LinkedIn](#), [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) or our [blog](#).

Collective Bargaining: This is a position covered by a bargaining unit for which the Washington Federation of State Employees (WFSE) is the exclusive representative.

Equal Opportunity Employer: The Washington State Department of Ecology is an equal opportunity employer. We strive to create a working environment that includes and respects cultural, racial, ethnic, sexual orientation and gender identity diversity. Women, racial and ethnic minorities, persons of disability, persons over 40 years of age, veterans, military spouses or people with military status, and people of all sexual orientations and gender identities are encouraged to apply. Persons needing accommodation in the application/testing process or this job announcement in an alternative format may call (360) 407-6186. Applicants who are deaf or hard of hearing may call the Washington Relay Service by dialing 7-1-1 or 1-800-833-6388.

Note: This recruitment may be used to fill other positions of the same job classification across the agency. Once all the position(s) from the recruitment announcement are filled, the recruitment may only be used to fill additional open positions for the next sixty (60) days.