



FACTS ABOUT The New Jersey Licensed Site Remediation Professional (LSRP) Program

Licensed Site Remediation Professional

An LSRP is an experienced environmental consultant licensed by the State of New Jersey to perform environmental remediation and guide a person responsible for conducting remediation through the remediation process. LSRPs act as the State of New Jersey certified specialists to oversee the remediation of contaminated sites. The state environmental regulatory agency, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP), continues to inspect and review submissions, issue permits and enforce compliance with timeframes.

In 2009, New Jersey created the LSRP program in the Site Remediation Reform Act (SRRA) to increase the pace of remediation; reduce the threat of contamination to public health and safety, and the environment; and return underutilized properties to productive use. Amendments to SRRA were signed into law in 2019. Since the beginning of the program, more than 19,000 projects have been issued Response Action Outcome (RAO) closure documents.

With few exceptions, anyone responsible for remediating a contaminated property is required to hire an LSRP. This includes but is not limited to:

- Industrial companies
- Real estate developers
- Owners of commercial properties
- State and local governments

Homeowners with heating oil underground storage tanks and federal government led sites are not required to hire an LSRP in some cases. In certain circumstances, the NJDEP may retain direct oversight for remediation.

One of the main qualities of LSRPs is their ability to adapt. Every site is different. Every project has its quirks. Every challenge presents an opportunity for renewal....

Anticipating the needs of tomorrow, including education, redevelopment, revitalization and remediation, requires a new way of thinking.

LSRPA President in 2023, William Call
New Jersey Business, March 2023

Requirements

An LSRP must know and apply the statutes, rules, regulations, and appropriate technical guidance concerning the remediation of contaminated sites in New Jersey. The LSRP's role is to guide the person responsible for conducting remediation through the process of remediating contaminated sites in accordance with the NJDEP's applicable standards and regulations.

Code of Conduct

An LSRP is responsible for meeting a strict code of conduct written into the SRRA. LSRPs' highest priority in the performance of professional services is the protection of public health and safety and the environment.

The SRRA statute also specifies responsibilities to the NJDEP and the responsible party. The NJ Site Remediation Professional Licensing Board (NJSRPLB or the Board) has the authority to investigate complaints against an LSRP and discipline LSRPs who violate the board rules. NJDEP has the authority to enforce against persons responsible for conducting remediation.

Professional Judgment

The SRRA requires that the LSRP comply with all remediation statutes and rules and consider NJDEP guidance when making remediation decisions. To perform their role effectively, LSRPs use their technical and scientific expertise and professional judgment throughout the entirety of the remediation process.

When there is no specific technical guidance issued by the NJDEP, or in the judgment of the LSRP the guidance is inappropriate or unnecessary to meet the remediation requirements, the LSRP may use additional resources such as: guidance from the United States Environmental Protection Agency or other states; guidance from organizations with acknowledged technical expertise; or other relevant, applicable, and appropriate methods and

practices. In accordance with SRRA, LSRPs document their departures from guidance or regulations, and document that the remediation is protective of public health and safety, and the environment.

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An LSRP's highest priority in the performance of professional services shall be the protection of public health and safety and the environment.

– **New Jersey Site Remediation Reform Act**

Fast Facts

(As of 2/2023)

The role of LSRP was created by the Site Remediation Reform Act of 2009, which was fully implemented in 2012.

Total number of LSRPs: **714**
(85% are LSRPA members.)

Total number of active LSRP cases in the Contaminated Site Remediation and Redevelopment Program: **10,339**

Total number of LSRP cases initiated: **26,846** since 2009.

Total number of LSRP cases closed: **13,373** since 2009.

Total number of Response Action Outcomes (RAO) closure documents issued: **19,717** since 2009.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

<http://www.lsrpa.org/>

<http://www.nj.gov/dep/srp/>

<http://www.nj.gov/lsrpboard/>

Professionalism

LSRPs are held to the highest standards of professionalism. By statute, the NJSRPLB may audit LSRPs for their compliance with the Site Remediation Reform Act. The Board also may evaluate that the LSRP has used standards of care and informed professional judgment.

Chaired by the NJDEP Commissioner or designee, SRRA establishes a 13 member Board with representatives of the business, environment, and academic communities with expertise in site remediation and seven LSRPs. Members are nominated by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate.

Eligibility

To become an LSRP, applicants must qualify to take and pass a rigorous licensing examination to test their knowledge of technical facts as well as the rules governing remediation.

Qualifications include the following:

- ✓ Bachelor's degree or higher in natural, chemical, or physical science or an engineering degree related to site remediation.
- ✓ At least eight years of full-time professional experience in the field of site remediation, at least five of those years in New Jersey, and at least three years in New Jersey immediately prior to applying for a license.
- ✓ At least 5,000 hours of relevant professional experience within New Jersey over the five years prior to the submission of an application for a license that indicates the applicant is competent to determine when site remediation is complete.

To maintain a license, the LSRP must complete 36 continuing education credits in each three-year license renewal term, including an ethics course focused on the challenges of the profession. These are rigorous academic requirements by professional standards.

About the LSRPA

The mission of the New Jersey Licensed Site Remediation Professional Association, Inc. (LSRPA) is to further the Licensed Site Remediation profession. This includes acting as an educational and technical resource; and assisting its membership to use standards of care and informed professional judgment when conducting the work of an LSRP in protecting public health and safety and the environment. With more than 1,000 members, including both LSRPs and others involved in site remediation, the LSRPA is a non-profit entity incorporated in the State of New Jersey, and is recognized by the NJDEP as the primary representative of the profession.