



Cerro Gordo County Department of Public Health

MEDIA RELEASE

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Health Department Employee Earns Certified Professional - Food Safety Credential

(Mason City) – Kara Morel, Environmental Health Specialist with the Cerro Gordo County Department of Public Health, has earned the Certified Professional – Food Safety (CP-FS) credential from the National Environmental Health Association (NEHA).

The CP-FS credential is designed for individuals within the public and private sectors who have prior food safety experience, and it integrates food microbiology, HACCP principles, and regulatory requirements to validate problem solving and knowledge expertise using real-world examples. This prestigious credential is well respected throughout the industry, and is highly valued by employers when hiring food safety professionals.

CP-FS credential holders may be employed in any retail food environment — as a quality assurance or quality control manager, facility manager, food-safe chemical supplier, or in a more traditional food safety position such as a regulatory inspector/investigator. CP-FS holders are able to conduct facility plan reviews, evaluate hazard analysis and critical control points (HACCP) plans or other risk-based food safety programs, understand the causes and prevention of foodborne illnesses, and analyze and implement sanitation standard operating procedures for safety and effectiveness. To earn this certification, Morel took and passed a comprehensive examination.

“Kara has been with us for a year and a half and in that time, she has excelled. By passing this exam, it exemplifies her commitment to the profession and competency as an inspector.” said Brian Hanft, Environmental Health Service Manager for the Cerro Gordo County Department of Public Health. “She is a great addition to the Department .”

NEHA currently serves 5,000 members to advance the environmental health and protection professional for the purpose of providing a healthful environment for all.

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