

“Traverse the labyrinth of regulations...”

Bio-economy Career Profile

Position: Regulatory Affairs
Specialist/Consultant

Name: Susan Ormsbee

Company: Ormsbee & Associates

Salary Range: \$80,000 to \$100,000 per year

What I do:

I assist small- to medium-sized drug companies to ensure that they meet government requirements. Most companies this size don't have the in-house expertise or are relatively new and inexperienced and require assistance.

I spend about half of my time in discussions with clients about their systems and how to ensure they comply with regulatory guidelines. The other half of the day is usually used for discussions with Health Canada and meetings with potential clients.

What education and skills do candidates need for this position?

No specific training is required, however, a background in science is a definite advantage in understanding what clients are trying to achieve.

The essential skills for this job are auditing, research, and analytical skills, including the ability to negotiate with government on behalf of clients.



You should be a good listener, problem solver, flexible, and enjoy working with new clients; the position can also be a solitary pursuit at times.

You should stay current in the regulatory world, keeping your knowledge up to date, and network as much as possible.

What are the best parts of your job?

The best parts of my job are meeting with people who are driven and ambitious and truly believe in what they are doing, and seeing a company getting its product license after you have helped traverse the labyrinth of regulations.