

Jurisdictional Class: Competitive
Adopted: November 8, 1979
Revised: July 30, 2010

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH TECHNICIAN

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: This is supervisory work of a sub-professional nature involving responsibility for overseeing the details of, and for carrying out the more difficult phases of, environmental health inspection activities. The work involves coordinating the gathering of information for use by Senior Public Health Sanitarians, Public Health Sanitarians, and/or Engineers in determining compliance with local and State Sanitary Code requirements. The work is performed under the general supervision of a technical superior with leeway allowed for the exercise of independent judgment in the performance of duties in accordance with established policies and procedures. Supervision is exercised over the work of Public Health Technicians. The incumbent does related work as required.

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES: (Illustrative only)

Arranges inspection schedules, assigns work to technicians, and may perform routine and follow-up inspections of tobacco vendors, seasonal swimming pools, beaches, migrant labor camps, hotels, mobile home parks, lodging, boarding houses, and other premises including public or individual water supplies, sewage disposal systems, public health nuisance complaints, and general sanitation;

Collects samples of drinking water, food, or other materials for laboratory analysis to determine organic, inorganic, and bacterial contamination;

Reviews work and inspection reports for quality and quantity;

Tests drinking water samples for bacteria, chlorine content, Ph, hardness, and alkalinity and reviews bacteriological analysis laboratory results;

Arranges inspection schedules, assigns work to technicians, and may perform routine and follow-up inspections of public health nuisances such as environmental exposures, insects, rodents, bats, garbage, refuse, and related matters and advises home owners and local officials on methods and procedures related to pest control;

Arranges inspection schedules, assigns work to technicians, and may perform routine and follow-up inspections of restaurants, retail establishments, and public eating places, including arrangements of food handling, display and storage, food service, dishwashing, and disinfection of dishes and utensils;

Carries out inspection policies and priorities outlined generally by superior;

Will be a member of the Public Health Response Team and will respond to public health emergencies;

Responds to telephone and written inquiries from owners/operators/managers and the general public regarding environmental programs within the health department;

Supervises the maintenance of detailed records and the preparation of reports of inspections;

May perform some of the more difficult work and resolve some of the more difficult problems that may be faced by Public Health Technicians.

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FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES & PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:

Good knowledge of basic principles and practices related to proper environmental public health inspection techniques;

Good knowledge of applicable provisions of the local and State Sanitary Code related to environmental public health inspections;

Good knowledge of general principles of biology, microbiology, bacteriology, chemistry, and general science;

Knowledge of public health principles and practices;

Skill in health inspection techniques;

Ability to gather data from observations, interviews, records, and reports;

Ability to establish and maintain cooperative relationships with the public;

Ability to plan and supervise the work of others;

Ability to train subordinates in accepted environmental health inspection techniques;

Ability to understand and interpret oral and written material and present ideas clearly and effectively both orally and in writing;

Ability to solve arithmetic problems related to environmental public health inspections;

Ability to prepare accurate reports;

Good observation;

Sound judgment.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Either:

- (a) Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State registered college or university with an Associate's Degree with a minimum of fifteen (15) semester credit hours in *natural sciences, of which not more than six (6) credit hours may be in the **applied sciences, and two (2) years of experience as a Public Health Technician deemed satisfactory by the local commissioner of health or public health director during which time you must have satisfactorily completed a public health training course approved by the New York State Health Department; or
- (b) Satisfactory completion of sixty (60) semester credit hours of academic education at regionally accredited or New York State registered college or university with a minimum of fifteen (15) semester credit hours in *natural sciences, of which not more than six (6) credit hours may be in the **applied sciences, and two (2) years of experience as a Public Health Technician deemed satisfactory by the local commissioner of health or public health director during which time you must have satisfactorily completed a public health training course approved by the New York State Health Department.

*Natural science shall mean a science such as biology, chemistry, or physics that deals with the objects, phenomena, or laws of nature and the physical world. It shall include all physical and biological sciences.

**Applied science shall mean science based courses in environmental technology, sanitation technology, medical technology, public health, infection control, or food science.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT: Assignments made to employees of this class require reasonable access to transportation to meet field work requirements in the ordinary course of business in a timely and efficient manner.

Qualifications are regulated by Part 11 of the State Sanitary Code (10 NYCRR).

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NOTE: Your degree must have been awarded by a college or university accredited by a regional, national, or specialized agency recognized as an accrediting agency by the U.S. Department of Education/U.S. Secretary of Education. If your degree was awarded by an educational institution outside the United States and its territories, you must provide independent verification of equivalency. A list of acceptable companies who provide this service can be found on the Internet at <http://www.cs.ny.gov/jobseeker/degrees.cfm>. You must pay the required evaluation fee.