

COMMISSIONER OF HEALTH

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF CLASS: This is medical administrative work of a complex nature which involves the responsibility for initiating, planning, organizing and directing a public health program for the County, including the enforcement of applicable public health laws and sanitary codes. Direction is exercised over a number of supervisory, technical and professional employees. The work is performed under the general direction of the County Executive and in accordance with obligations and liabilities granted or imposed by established laws and regulations. Does related work as required.

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:

Directs an annual sanitary survey and maintains sanitary supervision over the County;
Directs a periodic sanitary inspection of all places of public assemblage;
Directs a program of home nursing care;
Promotes the spread of information as to the causes, nature and prevention of prevalent diseases and the preservation and improvement of health;
Secures prompt and full reports from physicians of diseases required to be reported and prompt and complete registration of births and deaths;
Conducts hearings, issues subpoenas and compiles testimony in matters relating to health violations;
Initiates court prosecution in cases where violations cannot be otherwise corrected;
Counsels with key staff members on policy and procedural matters or on specific problems which are unusual or complex;
Confers with County department heads relating to health matters;
Attends and participates in conferences.

FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:

Comprehensive knowledge of the basic sciences underlying, and of the principles and practices of medicine as applied to public health practices; comprehensive knowledge of the principles, practices and terminology of public health administration; thorough knowledge of the principles and practices of epidemiology, sanitation and of the diagnosis and treatment of communicable diseases; ability to plan, direct and evaluate public health programs; ability to deal with the public on projects related to public health; ability to prepare and analyze technical and statistical reports; interest in maintaining a high standard of professional ethics.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

Qualifications will be determined by the County Executive.

The individual must meet, as a minimum, the following, pursuant to section 11.11 (a) of the New York State Department of Health Sanitary Code:

1. Possession of a license to practice Medicine in New York State, and
2. Two (2) years of experience in administrative practice; and either
 - a. A Master's degree in Public Health from a regionally accredited or New York State-registered college or university that demonstrates core competencies of a Master's in Public Health (Biostatistics, Environmental Health Sciences, Epidemiology, Health Policy and Management, Social and Behavioral Sciences) or a Master's degree in a related field (i.e., comparable curriculum); or
 - b. Certification by the American Board of Preventive Medicine.

NOTE: The Commissioner of Health's qualifications must be approved by the New York State Commissioner of Health prior to appointment.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT: License to practice medicine in New York State must be maintained throughout the course of employment in this title.

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