

DIRECTOR, ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEALTH

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: This is professional and administrative work involving responsibility for planning and directing the environmental public health activities of the Rockland County Health Department, including assessing environmental health issues and recommending action to the Commissioner of Health. The work is performed under the general direction of the Commissioner of Health and supervision is exercised over a number of professional and technical personnel. Does related work as required.

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:

Plans, implements, directs, monitors and evaluates environmental public health and conservation programs, including formulating policies and procedures for the functioning of said programs;
Supervises the environmental public health and conservation staff, including professional and technical personnel;
Reviews all engineering work in the environmental public health and conservation program;
Advises the Commissioner of Health on various environmental public health and conservation issues;
Participates in the development of Health Department policies, including the review of existing policies and the recommendations for modified or new policies;
Establishes environmental health program goals and objectives and continually monitors and evaluates programs to determine their effectiveness in meeting such goals and objectives;
Oversees various investigations, including but not limited to environmental contamination incidents, sources of air, water or land pollution, foodborne and waterborne disease, etc.;
Advises the Commissioner of Health on problems pertaining to solid and hazardous waste disposal systems;
Supervises activities and provides assessments in a number of environmental areas (e.g. water supply, food protection, housing, temporary residences, insect and rodent control, pools and beaches, radiological health, water pollution, air pollution, solid waste disposal or consumer products) which may involve harmful amounts of biological, chemical or radiological agents, etc.;
Prepares and/or oversees the preparation of a variety of technical and administrative reports, including recommendations for action (s) on environmental issues;
Formulates environmental public health and conservation policies for the review of the Commissioner of Health;
Establishes and directs training programs for county environmental public health and conservation staff as well as operating personnel (e.g. food handlers, restaurant operators, camp owners, other classes of operating personnel, etc.);
Represents the Health Department and the County of Rockland on environmental matters;
Maintains contact with various State, Federal and local government agencies and personnel, consultants and facility operators;
Performs a variety of related duties as directed by the Commissioner of Health.

FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:

Thorough knowledge of environmental health engineering principles and practices; thorough knowledge of modern principles and practices of environmental health; thorough knowledge of the scientific and technical principles which apply to the environmental transport of biological, chemical and radioactive agents, their control and their impact on health and safety; good knowledge of risk assessment, risk management and risk communication as it applies to low levels of environmental contamination with toxic materials; familiarity with the role of epidemiology in assessing the causes of disease and injury and the role of preventive measures in reducing exposure to disease and injury at facilities regulated by the Sanitary Code; ability to plan, establish, direct and evaluate a moderately-sized environmental health program; ability to complete a variety of technical and administrative reports; ability to express oneself effectively, both orally and in writing.

(over)

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: A Bachelor's degree in Engineering and possession of a Master's degree in Public Health or in an appropriate field of Engineering and, in addition to the above two (2) degrees:

1. Six (6) years of sanitary, public health or environmental engineering experience, at least two (2) years of which are at a level equivalent to an Associate Public Health Engineer in a New York State, city or county health department or Associate Sanitary Engineer in the New York State Department of Health, or
2. Six (6) years of sanitary, public health or environmental engineering experience, at least four (4) years of which are at a level equivalent to a Senior Public Health Engineer in a New York State, city or county health department or a Senior Sanitary Engineer in the New York State Department of Health.

NOTE: Post-degree industrial hygiene or occupational health experience may be substituted for up to two (2) years of the required general experience on a 2-for-1 basis.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT: Possession of a Professional Engineer's License (PE) issued by the New York State Department of Education which must be maintained throughout the course of employment in this title.

PROMOTION: Three (3) years of permanent status as an Associate Public Health Engineer or six (6) years of permanent status as a Senior Public Health Engineer.