PROGRAM SPECIALIST, PUBLIC HEALTH EDUCATION

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: This is professional public health education work of a moderately complex nature involving responsibility for overseeing and participating in public health education programs administered by the Department of Health (e.g. Tobacco, Mosquito control programs) and for overseeing assessment, development and implementation of health education within specific populations. The work differs from that of a Public Health Educator in the level of responsibility and independence of decision making. The work is performed under the general supervision of a Senior Public Health Educator and/or Public Health Education Coordinator and work guidance (e.g. lead work) may be provided to others. Does related work as required.

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:
Develops and participates in procedures to assess health education needs of the community, especially for specialized public health needs;
Analyzes the knowledge, interests, and practices of people in the community to determine barriers to the health education process;
Collaborates with program specialists to plan and conduct the day-to-day activities associated with County-wide work site wellness projects including assessment and implementation;
Conducts community outreach to community leaders and school personnel, as needed;
Develops and conducts workshops, seminars, and in-service training pertaining to special public health programs;
Assists school districts and community organizations in developing and improving their prevention activities by providing consultation, guidance and technical assistance;
Develops and conducts specialized school and community public health education programs (e.g. Tobacco prevention);
Develops information for the issuance of press releases and public relations materials;
Conducts surveys to assess community work-site support and needs regarding public health issues and programs (e.g. Healthy Heart, Mosquito Control);
Prepares a variety of reports as required.
May develop procedures for and participate in program evaluation.

FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:
Good knowledge of the principles and practices of public health education, especially as they relate to prevention of disease; good knowledge of methods of collecting and/or disseminating information, developing community support and cooperation; ability to analyze and evaluate community health needs and resources; ability to work effectively with members of the public, especially youth; ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:
A Master’s degree in Public Health Education, or comparable curriculum, and two (2) years of professional experience as a Public Health Educator.

NOTE:
1. Additional years of work experience as a Public Health Educator may be substituted for a Master’s Degree on a year-for-year basis up to two (2) years.
2. CHES Certification (Certified Health Education Specialist) may be substituted for one (1) year of professional experience as a Public Health Educator.

Competitive