

PUBLIC HEALTH SANITARIAN

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: This is managerial and supervisory work of a moderately complex nature which involves a responsibility for overseeing a variety of public health activities including directing the investigation and inspection of environmental programs such as housing and/or food service establishments. The work is performed under the general supervision of a higher-level public health professional and direct supervision is exercised over a number of professional, technical and clerical employees. Does related work as required.

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:

Oversees a public health inspection program including, but not limited to food service establishments, housing, temporary residences, mobile home parks, bathing beaches and swimming pools, children's camps, surveillance and sampling of water supplies, nuisance complaints relating to sewage, garbage, and insects, rabies control, and permitting of garbage and scavenger trucks;

Collects water, food and other samples for laboratory examination;

Prepares reports on inspections and investigations;

Acts as Hearing Officer at legal proceedings for alleged violations of the Rockland County and New York State Sanitary codes;

Maintains contact with various groups and officials (e.g. news media, public officials, landlord groups, restaurant owners, trade unions, homeowner associations, state, federal and local agencies, etc.) to discuss the goals and requirements of program-related health problems, regulations, etc.;

Trains new environmental and other public health employees;

Oversees the procedures for the collection process for environmental health fees and fines, information subpoenas, income execution to Sheriff, restraining notices to banks, etc.;

Acts as liaison to other environmental health programs (e.g. lead inspection, collection of hazardous household waste, radiological health/Indian Point drills, etc.).

FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:

Thorough knowledge of principles and practices of environmental health particularly those pertaining to inspection of housing, food service establishments, and other related programs; thorough knowledge of the Rockland County Sanitary Code, New York State Sanitary Codes, and the New York State Public Health Law as they pertain to environmental health; ability to interpret and apply complex regulations; ability to plan and schedule the work of others engaged in environmental health inspection activities; ability to prepare a variety of technical reports; ability to establish and maintain cooperative relations with others, including the public and various groups interested in housing and/or food service establishment inspection activities; ability to train subordinates in environmental health inspection activities, especially activities involved in the enforcement of the Sanitary Code regulations; ability to act as a Hearing Officer; ability to understand and implement basic legal processes necessary to conduct hearings and collect fines.

(over)

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

1. A Bachelor's degree which included thirty (30) credit hours in the Natural Sciences, twelve (12) hours of which must have been in the Physical and/or Biological Sciences; and either;
 - (a) Five (5) years of experience in environmental health protection* or
 - (b) Thirty (30) graduate credit hours, including eighteen (18) credit hours in Biological Science, Environmental Health, Environmental Engineering, Sanitary Environmental Science, Public Health Sanitary Engineering, or related, or
2. An Associate's degree or completion of sixty (60) undergraduate credit hours, including twenty-four (24) credit hours in the Natural Sciences, twelve (12) of which must have been in the Biological and/or Physical Sciences and seven (7) years experience in environmental health protection *.

PROMOTION:

Three (3) years of permanent status as a Public Health Technician II or five (5) years of permanent status as a Public Health Technician I.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:

1. Completion of a training course in Environmental Health approved by the New York State Department of Health. Such course must have been completed prior to or within one (1) year after appointment; and
2. Possession of a valid motor vehicle license or accessibility to transportation to meet field work requirements in a timely and efficient manner.

*Environmental health protection shall be defined as the conduct of field inspections of various types of facilities to determine compliance with the New York State Public Health Law, Sanitary Codes of New York State or Rockland County laws and regulations, or related, and/or citing deficiencies and conducting follow-up inspections in order to ensure compliance.