

## **PUBLIC HEALTH SPECIALIST I (YIDDISH-SPEAKING)**

**DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS:** This is professional work involving responsibility for providing education in disease control and prevention and implementing programs in these areas. The work is distinguished from that of a Public Health Specialist I in that some of the duties performed in this position require the incumbent to possess speaking and reading ability in Yiddish at the fluency level indicated below in the Notes. General supervision is received from a higher-level administrator and work guidance (i.e., lead work) may be provided to others. Does related work as required.

### **TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:**

Coordinate and carry out educational programs and professional and community relations between department offices, public and private agencies, and community organizations in the areas of disease control and prevention;  
Provide education to staff in communicable disease prevention and treatment;  
Perform community outreach by meeting with community leaders and groups to distribute literature and provide information on communicable diseases;  
Investigate and monitor known or potential sources of suspected infections and/or communicable diseases to determine original source, ensure infection control, and assist in the reduction of transmission;  
Conduct special projects and studies, as required;  
Perform data collection and analysis, and prepare written reports on same;  
Maintain a variety of records, including epidemiological and case record investigations;  
May draw blood samples from patients.

### **FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:**

Good knowledge of the principles and practices of communicable disease control and prevention; good knowledge of basic terminology related to sexually-transmitted diseases, tuberculosis, AIDS and other communicable diseases; working knowledge of public health rules and regulations, especially as they relate to the prevention and control of communicable diseases; ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing; ability to prepare reports, including routine activity and statistical reports; ability to speak, read and understand colloquial Yiddish and to translate into acceptable English; awareness, knowledge and understanding of Yiddish culture and mores.

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:** A Bachelor's degree in Public Health, Health Education, Epidemiology, Nursing or comparable curriculum and one (1) year of post-degree experience in professional activities related to communicable disease control and/or prevention.

### **NOTES:**

1. Two (2) additional years of the required general experience in communicable disease control and/or prevention may be substituted for the specialized Bachelor's degree.
2. A Master's degree in Public Health, Health Education, Epidemiology, Nursing, or comparable curriculum which included or was supplemented by nine (9) or more credit hours in communicable disease control and/or prevention may be deemed fully qualifying.

(over)

3. Incumbents are expected to possess a Level II proficiency in Yiddish (as defined by the Examinations Division of the State of New York Department of Civil Service) which requires that the incumbent: be able to speak the language with sufficient structural accuracy and vocabulary to participate effectively in most formal and informal conversations on practical, social and professional topics not requiring specialized vocabulary (e.g. technical engineering, medicine, etc.); can discuss particular interests and special fields of competence in general terms with reasonable ease; possesses adequate comprehension to normal rate of speech; has good control of grammar and errors do not interfere with understanding; can read with understanding a standard newspaper, correspondence and official documents.