

PUBLIC HEALTH SPECIALIST I

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: This is professional work of a moderately routine to moderately complex nature involving responsibility for providing education in disease control and prevention and implementing programs in these areas. The work is distinguished from that of Public Health Educators in the duties involved specifically in community disease control and investigation, including hands-on testing. General supervision is received from a Public Health Specialist II and/or III and supervision may be exercised over a small number of employees. Does related work as required.

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:

Coordinates and carries 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;
Provides education to staff in communicable disease prevention and treatment;
Performs community outreach by meeting with community leaders and groups to distribute literature and provide information on communicable diseases;
Conducts investigations of communicable diseases, by telephone and in person to find disease contacts;
Conducts special projects and studies, as required;
Performs data collection and analysis, and prepares written reports on same;
Maintains a variety of records, including epidemiological and case record investigations;
May perform venipuncture for AIDS and other sexually-transmitted diseases.

FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:

Good knowledge of modern 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.

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

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