

PUBLIC HEALTH SPECIALIST I

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. 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.

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.