PUBLIC HEALTH SPECIALIST II

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: This is professional work of a moderately complex nature involving responsibility for implementing disease control and prevention programs. The work is distinguished from that of Public Health Educators in the responsibility for community disease control and investigation, including hands-on testing. General supervision is received from a Public Health Specialist III and supervision is exercised over a small number of professional and clerical staff. Does related work as required.

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:
Conducts investigations of communicable diseases, by telephone and in person, in order to find disease contacts, especially in instances of outbreaks;
Performs community outreach by meeting with community leaders and groups in order to distribute literature and provide information on communicable diseases;
Performs venipuncture for AIDS and other sexually-transmitted diseases;
Acts as liaison with New York State officials in order to track the course and origins of communicable diseases;
Conducts special projects and studies, when assigned;
Provides education about sexually-transmitted diseases to Correction Officers and inmates;
Acts as liaison with local physicians, laboratories and hospitals in order to gather and exchange information and ensure the department's compliance with reporting requirements;
Prepares reports, as necessary;
Maintains a variety of records, including epidemiological and case record investigations.

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; ability to supervise the work of others.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: A Bachelor's degree in Public Health, Health Education, Epidemiology, Nursing or related and two (2) years 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 one (1) year of the required experience.

Competitive