

DEPARTMENT: HEALTH DEPARTMENT
CLASSIFICATION: COMPETITIVE
APPROVED: JULY 18, 2014

PUBLIC HEALTH SANITARIAN

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: The term Public Health Sanitarian shall mean a person who applies the principles of the physical, biological, and social sciences for the detection, evaluation, control and management of those factors in the environment which influence man's health. The incumbent works under the supervision of a higher-level sanitarian and performs professional public health activities which include specialized inspections, detailed investigations, and field interventions. A sanitarian investigates public health and environmental hazards, inspects regulated facilities, conducts health risk assessments, evaluates public health nuisances, and enforces the State and County sanitary code. Major program areas include community sanitation and food protection, environmental radiation, environmental/occupational health, and environmental conservation activities. Additional duties include the first line supervision of subordinate personnel, the provision of training, field testing and sampling, the interpretation of laboratory reports, the preparation of reports and recommendations, and the provision of evidence at enforcement proceedings. The incumbent may supervise the work of Public Health Technicians. Does related work as required.

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:

1. Inspects permitted establishments, food service, private water supplies, swimming pools, private sewage disposal systems, waste disposal sites, waste transporters, wastewater treatment facilities, children's camps, migrant labor camps, mobile home parks, hotels and motels;
2. Investigates food poisoning incidents, public health nuisances, rabies incidents, smoking in public places and adolescent smoking, lead poisoning, housing conditions, public health and environmental hazards, air and water pollution releases, spills;
3. Conducts soil percolation tests, swimming pool field tests, private and public water supply field tests, lead program field tests, and other tests as required;
4. Collects water, ambient and indoor air, lead, food, soil, and other samples for laboratory examination;
5. Prepares reports on inspections, investigations, and field interventions;
6. May supervise Public Health Technicians;
7. Performs enforcement activities associated with public health and environmental conservation programs.

FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGES, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:

Good working knowledge of public health and environmental health and conservation practices; ability to supervise the work of others; ability to prepare written reports; ability to communicate verbally; ability to train others in environmental health work; ability to relate to the public and the regulated community; good working professional judgment; physical condition commensurate with the demands of the position.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

SUGGESTED PROMOTIONAL QUALIFICATIONS (EFFECTIVE 9/23/2005):

One (1) year of permanent competitive status as a Public Health Technician with the Niagara County Health Department and experience in public health and environmental conservation programs deemed acceptable to the Public Health Director with satisfactory completion of a training course approved by the New York State Department of Health (New York State Sanitary Code 11.111(b)).

OPEN-COMPETITIVE:

Graduation from a regionally accredited college or university or one accredited by the New York State Board of Regents to grant degrees with a Bachelor's Degree including a minimum of thirty (30) credit hours in natural science, of which not more than twelve (12) credit hours may be in the applied sciences; and satisfactory completion of a training course approved by the State Health Department within one (1) year of appointment.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT:

Individuals meeting the above requirement may apply for a certificate as Public Health Sanitarian issued by the Niagara County Public Health Director. Possession of the certificate is required at the time of appointment.

Possession of a New York State driver's license at time of appointment and throughout duration of employment.