

## **PUBLIC HEALTH TECHNICIAN**

**Distinguishing Features of the Class:** The work involves responsibility for performing a variety of field tests and activities to support Public Health Sanitarians and Engineers carry out the various elements of prevention and control programs affecting public health. Employees in this class are responsible for making inspections and carrying out specialized phases of the Environmental Health Program in a municipal health department or agency. Duties involve gathering information and data for use by Public Health Engineers and Sanitarians in determining compliance with local and state Sanitary Code requirements. The work is performed under general supervision of either a higher level technical or professional employee who reviews reports and provides advisory assistance as necessary. Does related work as required.

### **Typical Work Activities:**

- Performs routine and follow-up inspections of sanitary conditions of camps, hotels, lodging and boarding houses, swimming pools, beaches and other premises including public or individual water supplies and sewage disposal to determine compliance with local and State Sanitary Code requirements;
- Collects samples of drinking water for laboratory analysis to determine organic, inorganic and bacterial contamination;
- Participates in enforcement proceedings including testifying at hearings;
- Investigates air pollution, public health nuisances and general sanitation complaints;
- Performs animal bite investigations, interviews persons involved and advises on procedures to follow and issues notice of violation where applicable;
- Performs routine and follow-up inspections of public health nuisances such as mosquito and fly breeding places, rodent harborages, and related matters and advises local officials and the public of corrective measures;
- Performs soil tests, including visual observation of soil type, texture, strata and physical test of soil permeability;
- Inspects sites and advises home owners on design of home sewage systems depending on varying soil conditions;
- Maintains records and completes inspection reports related to the work;
- Aids home owners, local officials, and commercial operators on proper sanitary operations of wells, pumps and water source protection;
- May collect and deliver suspected diseased animals to State laboratories for analysis.

### **Full Performance Knowledge, Skills, Abilities and Personal Characteristics:**

- Working knowledge of environmental health principles, sanitation regulations and modern inspection methods;
- Working knowledge of applicable provisions of the State Sanitary Code relating to environmental public health inspections;
- Working knowledge of natural science and mathematics;
- Skill in health inspection techniques;
- Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with others;
- Ability to organize and maintain accurate records and files;
- Ability to read maps and drawings;
- Ability to solve arithmetic problems related to environmental public health inspections;
- Physical condition commensurate with the demands of the position.

**Public Health Technician continued****Minimum Qualifications: EITHER:**

A.) Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State registered college or university or one accredited by the New York State Board of Regents to grant degrees with an Associates' degree including a minimum of 15 semester credit hours in the natural sciences, of which not more than six (6) credit hours may be in the applied sciences, and have satisfactorily completed a public health training course approved by the State Health Department within two years of appointment;

**OR**

B.) Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State registered college or university or one accredited by the New York State Board of Regents to grant degrees with an Bachelor's degree including a minimum of 15 semester credit hours in the natural sciences, of which not more than six (6) credit hours may be in the applied sciences, and have satisfactorily completed a public health training course approved by the State Health Department within two years of appointment.

**Special Requirement:** Possession of a valid New York State Driver's License or otherwise demonstrate their ability to meet the transportation needs of the job.

**Note:** An original transcript is needed for all degrees.

The term natural science shall mean a science such as biology, chemistry or physics that deals with the objects, phenomena, or laws of nature and the physical world. It shall include all physical and biological sciences.

The term applied science shall mean science based courses in environmental technology, sanitation technology, medical technology, public health, and infection control or food science.

07/21/1987

12/22/2006

10/09/2009

CLASS:       COMPETITIVE