

DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: This is work of professional public health nature involving responsibility for planning, directing, supervising the Environmental Health Services Division of the County Department of Health. An employee in this class is responsible for furnishing advice and guidance to local officials and the general public regarding public health and environmental health problems and measures necessary for improvement and compliance with legal requirements; providing leadership, in promotion of public health through the application of public health and environmental health practices and enforcement of the provisions of the Public Health Law, State Sanitary Code and Broome County Sanitary Code in relation to environmental health matters. General direction is received from the Public Health Director who reviews the work for accomplishment and adherence to policy. Supervision and direction is exercised over a staff which may include Public Health Engineers, Public Health Sanitarians, Public Health Technicians, Ground Water Management Specialists and clerical employees. Does related work as required.

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:

Plans, develops, directs and administers the public health and environmental health program and supervises the work of the section or division staff;

Guides and directs educational and regulatory activities pertaining to the program;

Supervises enforcement of provisions of Public Health Law, State Sanitary Code and Broome County Sanitary Code relating to air pollution, public water supplies, sewage and waste disposal, operation of water and sewage treatment plants, swimming pools and bathing beaches, camps, hotels, lodging and boarding houses, restaurants and public health nuisances and related matters;

Consults and advises with staff regarding activities relating to the sanitary control of food;

Supervises and directs the activities relating to the promotion of improved housing to meet public health standards;

Formulates and supervises programs for insect and rodent control;

Advises public officials on problems in the operation of garbage dumps, sanitary landfills, public water supplies, waste water disposal, air pollution and hazardous waste disposal;

Conducts public health investigations of outbreaks of disease;

Formulates and directs programs for training of water and sewage plant operators, environmental health personnel, food handlers, restaurant proprietors, camp owners and other classes of operating personnel;

Represents the Department of Health on matters and problems related to environmental health;

Maintains relationships and cooperates with State and Federal agencies whose work or policies affect the public health program;

Prepares and monitors the division budget;

Approves payment of bills and vouchers;

Prepares and reviews division reports to State agencies and State reports concerning environmental health;

Formulates public health and environmental health policies;

May review and approves plans for water supply, sewage disposal, realty subdivision, swimming pools and beaches, hotels and motels and food service establishments.

FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:

Comprehensive knowledge of the principles, techniques, practices and administration of public health and environmental health programs as related to air pollution, water supplies and purification, sewage disposal, sanitary control of restaurants and public eating places, smoke abatements, sanitary control of camps, hotels, lodging houses, boarding houses, swimming pools, bathing beaches, schools and other places, insect and rodent control, housing, public health nuisances, general sanitation, hazardous and solid wastes;

Thorough knowledge of provisions of Public Health Law, State Sanitary Code and Broome County Sanitary Code related to above subjects;

Ability to plan, develop, direct and administer public health and environmental health programs and to project and integrate these into the departmental program;

Ability to prepare technical reports and correspondence;

High degree of initiative and resourcefulness in solving difficult public health problems;

Ability to deal with public and other officials;

Ability to develop and maintain good public relations;

Ability to apply core competencies in public health as described by the Council On Linkages Between Academia And Public Health Practice;

Professional judgment.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

Per section 11.91 of the New York State Sanitary Code:
Qualifications of Director of Environmental Health Services

PROMOTIONAL:

Four years of permanent competitive class status as a Senior Public Health Engineer or Senior Public Health Sanitarian AND completion of eighteen(18) graduate credits in coursework that encompasses the five core competencies of a public health education (Biostatistics,

Environmental Health Services, Epidemiology, Health Policy and Management, and Social and Behavioral Sciences) within three years of permanent appointment.

OPEN-COMPETITIVE:

- A) Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State registered college or university with a Bachelor's degree in sanitary, environmental, chemical, civil or public health engineering or a related engineering field; OR
- B) Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State registered college or university with a Bachelor's degree with thirty (30) credit hours in the natural sciences, of which not more than twelve (12) credit hours may be in the applied sciences;

BOTH A) AND B) ALSO REQUIRE EITHER:

- 1) Two years of experience as a Supervising Engineer or as a Supervising Sanitarian which must have included administrative and supervisory responsibilities; OR
 - 2) Five years of environmental health experience which includes two years of supervisory experience, which must have included responsibility for program management.
- C) An equivalent combination of training and experience as defined by the limits of A) and B) above.

DEFINITIONS:

Per section 11.90 of the New York State Sanitary Code

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, infection control or food science.

Environmental health encompasses the assessment and control of those environmental factors that can potentially affect health (World Health Organization). Environmental health includes, but is not limited to, the oversight of proper wastewater management, monitoring of hazardous waste sites and public water supplies, inspection of restaurants, hotels/motels, children's camps, mobile home parks, public pools and beaches, and controlling the spread of vector borne diseases.

NOTE: A master's degree in public or environmental health or a related field that includes completion of eighteen (18) graduate credits in coursework that encompasses the five core competencies of a public health education (Biostatistics, Environmental Health Services, Epidemiology, Health Policy and Management, and Social and Behavioral Sciences) may be substituted for up to two (2) years of the required environmental health experience.

SPECIAL NOTE:

Incumbent is designated as an Emergency Operations Center staff member by the County Executive.

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COMPETITIVE