

Jurisdictional Class: Competitive  
EEO Category: Professional  
Revised: 09/20/2018

## **PRINCIPAL PUBLIC HEALTH SANITARIAN**

**DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS:** This position exists in the Department of Public Health, and involves responsibility for supervising and participating in the operations of a functional core group within the Environmental Division. An incumbent performs complex work in the application of the principles of physical, biological and social sciences for the detection, evaluation, control and management of those factors in the environment which influence health. Operations may include programs involving food service establishments, private water supplies, private sewage disposal, rodent control, housing, bathing beaches and swimming pools, children's camps, temporary residences, farm labor camps, mobile home parks, public water supplies, lead poisoning and nuisance investigations. An employee in this class is responsible for planning, supervising and carrying out aspects of one or more environmental health programs. The incumbent will also serve as a consultant to local jurisdictions involving discussions, instructions and demonstrations. The work is performed under direct supervision of the Environmental Health Director, with leeway allowed in carrying out the duties of the work. Supervision is exercised over the work of Senior Public Health Sanitarians, Public Health Sanitarians and Public Health Technicians. The incumbent performs related work as required.

**TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:** (Illustrative Only)

Supervises and participates in the operations of Environmental Division programs;  
Supervises and conducts investigations;  
Prepares reports and recommendations in response to investigations;  
Serves as consultant to local jurisdictions;  
Investigates chemical emergencies and outbreaks of disease;  
Studies present and proposed local regulations to determine conformity with the State Sanitary Code, and confers with local officials regarding resolutions;  
Supervises the training of Public Health Sanitarians and Public Health Technicians;  
May perform public water supply inspections and environmental health assessments.

**FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:**

Thorough knowledge of environmental health principles, sanitation laws, regulations and modern inspection methods; ability to inspect for, and detect, environmental health problems and hazards; ability to achieve resolutions of environmental health problems, hazards and nuisances; ability to develop and maintain good public relations; ability to plan and supervise the work of subordinates; good professional judgment.

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:**

- (A) Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State registered four-year college or university with a Bachelor's Degree, including thirty (30) credit hours in the natural sciences\* of which not more than twelve (12) credit hours may be in the applied sciences\*\* **AND** two (2) years of experience as a Senior Public Health Sanitarian; **OR**

continued...

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS (cont'd):**

- (B) Graduation from high school or possession of a high school equivalency diploma AND five (5) years of experience as a public health technician deemed satisfactory by the local commissioner of health or public health director, **AND** two (2) years of experience as a Senior Public Health Sanitarian.

\*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.

Adopted: 12/16/1997

Revised: 01/05/1998; 06/12/2006; 09/20/2018