

PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEER

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: The term "public health engineer" shall mean a person who applies engineering principles for the detection, evaluation, control and management of those factors in the environment which may influence public health. This position exists in the County Public Health Department, and involves responsibility for the planning and performance of public health engineering duties concerned with the execution of one or more phases of the environmental health program. The work entails advising public officials or individuals on problems requiring public health engineering expertise, including measures for improvement and compliance with legal requirements, assisting in the promotion of public health through application of environmental health practices, assisting in the enforcement of the provisions of local and State health matters and investigations of related conditions and problems. The work is performed under general supervision. Supervision is exercised over the work of subordinate employees. Does related work as required.

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES: (Illustrative Only)

Investigates, reports on and makes recommendations concerning public water supplies, individual water supplies, individual sewage systems, swimming and bathing places, stream pollution, sanitary conditions of camps, hotels or boarding houses, food, restaurant and general sanitation, air pollution, and environmental nuisances;

Responds to, and conducts investigations, into hazardous material and oil spills, fish kills and other problems;

Confers with local officials relative to public health engineering problems;

Interprets the results of laboratory examinations of air, water, sewage, industrial wastes and other samples;

Reviews engineering plans and specifications for compliance with applicable public health laws, codes, rules, regulations and standards;

Assists in the investigation of outbreaks of diseases, as part of a public health team;

Maintains relationships, and cooperates with, State and Federal agencies concerning environmental and sanitary engineering programs and problems;

Prepares a variety of technical reports, including recommendations for correction of environmental engineering problems;

Provides education and training of staff, with respect to public health engineering;

Aids businesses, municipalities and industries in conducting surveys to detect illegal or improper plumbing connections;

Performs special assignments relating to phases of public health engineering or environmental health, as required;

Represents the Health Department on matters and problems related to environmental and sanitary engineering;

Assists in developing public health engineering programs, and procedures;

Prepares a variety of records and reports related to the public health engineering;

May assist in the instruction of local water plant operators.

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FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:

Good knowledge of the principles, practices and techniques of public health engineering and environmental health related to air pollution, water supplies and purification, sewage disposal, stream pollution, foods, restaurants and public eating places, camps, hotels, lodging and boarding houses, swimming pools, bathing beaches, schools and other places, insect and rodent control, public health nuisances and general sanitation; good knowledge of the provisions of the Public Health Law and State Sanitary Code related to the above subjects; ability to prepare reports and correspondence; skill in public health engineering techniques and practices; initiative and resourcefulness in solving public health engineering problems; ability to deal with public and other officials and develop public relations.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State registered college or university with a Bachelor's Degree in engineering; or a license to practice as a Professional Engineer in New York State.