

Civil Division: Oneida County Government  
Jurisdictional Class: Competitive  
EEO Category: Technicians  
Revised: 07/15/10

## **PUBLIC HEALTH TECHNICIAN I**

**DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS:** This is entry level technical work involving responsibility for assisting Public Health Sanitarians and Engineers in carrying 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 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. Supervision over the work of others is not usually a responsibility of employees in this class. The incumbent performs related work as required.

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

Performs routine and follow-up inspections of sanitary conditions of camps, hotels, lodging and boarding houses and other premises including public or individual water supplies and sewage disposal devices, refuse disposal, air pollution, public health nuisance complaints and general sanitation;

Performs routine and follow-up inspections of handling, display and storage of food in retail establishments;

Advises home owners and local officials on methods and procedures relating to insect and rodent control;

Performs routine and follow-up inspections of swimming pools and beaches 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;

Performs routine and follow-up inspections of restaurants and public eating places, including arrangements of food handling and storage, food service, dishwashing and disinfection of dishes and utensils;

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 of corrective measures;

Performs routine visual inspections or re-inspections of homes for safety hazards;

Tests drinking water samples for chlorine content, Ph, hardness and alkalinity;

Advises home owners on bat control, including repellents and building improvement to prevent entry;

Advises homeowners, tenants and landlords on methods and procedures to reduce safety hazards in the home;

Aids home owners, local officials and commercial operators on proper sanitary operation of wells, pumps and water protection;

Maintains records and completes inspection reports related to work.

May collect and deliver suspected diseased animals to State laboratories for analysis;

May inspect sites;

May provide and review health related and safety hazard reduction materials with homeowners, tenants and landlords.

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**FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:** Working knowledge of basic principles and practices related to proper environmental public health inspection techniques; working knowledge of applicable provisions of the State Sanitary Code related to environmental public health inspections; working knowledge of general principles of biology, chemistry and general science; working knowledge of community agencies and referral processes; ability to establish and maintain cooperative relationships with the public; ability to understand and interpret written material; ability to solve arithmetic problems related to environmental public health inspections; ability to prepare accurate reports; skill in health inspection techniques.

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:** Either:

- (A) Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State registered two year college or university with an Associate's Degree, which must include a minimum of twelve (12) semester credit hours in the physical and biological sciences\*, of which not more than six (6) credit hours may be in the applied sciences; **OR**
- (B) Satisfactory completion of 60 semester credit hours of academic education at a regionally accredited or New York State registered college or university, which must include a minimum of twelve (12) semester credit hours in the physical and biological sciences\*, of which not more than six (6) credit hours may be in the applied sciences.

\* The Physical and Biological Sciences include courses such as biology, microbiology, botany, zoology, general inorganic chemistry, qualitative and quantitative analyses, biochemistry, organic chemistry, geology and physics.

**NOTE:** Appointees must satisfactorily complete 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 at time of application. License must remain valid throughout appointment in order to meet the transportation requirements of the job.

Adopted: 04/25/01  
Revised: 05/03/01, 07/15/10

*Title in promotional series: Public Health Technician I, Public Health Technician II, Public Health Sanitarian, Senior Public Health Sanitarian, Principal Public Health Sanitarian, Supervising Public Health Sanitarian*