

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH TECHNICIAN I

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: Under supervision, an incumbent of this position does routine, sub-professional environmental health work involving responsibility for conducting inspections and carrying out one or more specialized phases of the environmental health program of the County Health Department. The work involves gathering information for use by public health engineers and public health sanitarians in determining compliance with New York State and Westchester County Sanitary Code and Environmental Conservation Law and Regulation requirements. The work of this position differs from the Environmental Health Technician II level in that the Environmental Health Technician II supervises subordinate level environmental health personnel and conducts more difficult phases of environmental health inspection activities. Depending upon assignments, the work is performed under general or direct supervision of a technical superior who reviews reports and provides advisory assistance when necessary. Does related work as required.

EXAMPLES OF WORK: (Illustrative Only)

Makes routine inspections of sanitary or environmental conditions or both of temporary residences, farm labor camps, semi-public or individual water supplies and sewage disposal systems, refuse disposal, air pollution, habitable buildings, low risk food service establishments, public health nuisance complaints and general environmental health activities;

Inspects low risk restaurants and public eating places, to ensure that food handling, food service, dish-washing and disinfection of dishes and utensils are in accordance with State and Local regulations;

Inspects facilities that store fuel oil to ensure compliance with Petroleum Bulk Storage regulations;

Assists with sampling and remediation efforts at spill sites by collecting soil and water samples; applying absorbent boons to absorb spills, create earthen berms to retain spills or apply other materials/chemicals to absorb or neutralize spills;

Re-inspects high risk or more technically complex facilities previously inspected by higher-level staff;

Collects swab samples, water samples, insect and/or animal specimens, radiological samples and other samples of public health or environmental quality concerns;

Performs simple tests, e.g., percolation or chlorine residual tests and/or observes private contractors performing same;

If assigned to the Mosquito Control Program, may be required to apply pesticides when appropriate in accordance with Westchester County and New York State Laws;

Makes inspections of nuisances, mosquito and fly breeding places, rodent harborages and related matters;

Maintains records, compiles data and prepares reports on inspections;

May testify at enforcement proceedings;

EXAMPLES OF WORK: (Illustrative Only) (con't)

Uses computer applications or other automated systems such as spreadsheets, word processing, calendar, e-mail and database software in performing work assignments;

May perform other incidental tasks as needed.

REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND ATTRIBUTES: Good knowledge and understanding of the basic principles and practices related to proper environmental health inspection of the establishments and matters mentioned above; good knowledge of acceptable compliance with provisions of the State and County Sanitary Codes and Environmental Conservation Laws and Regulations related to the above establishments and matters; skill in inspection techniques; ability to establish and maintain cooperative relationships with the public; ability to effectively use computer applications such as spreadsheets, word processing, e-mail and database software; ability to read, write, speak, understand, and communicate in English sufficiently to perform the essential duties of the position; good observation; mental alertness; firmness; tact; good judgment; physical condition commensurate with the demands of the position.

MINIMUM ACCEPTABLE TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE: Possession of an Associates Degree* with a minimum of 15 credit hours in the natural sciences** of which not more than six (6) credit hours may be in the applied sciences.**

SUBSTITUTION: Sixty college credits, including 15 credit hours in the natural sciences, may be substituted for the Associates Degree*.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT: Satisfactorily completion of a public health training course approved by the State Health Department within two years of appointment.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT: Possession of a valid license to operate a motor vehicle in the State of New York at time of appointment.

*SPECIAL NOTE: Education beyond the secondary must be from an institution accredited or recognized by the Board of Regents of the New York State Education Department as a post-secondary, degree-granting institution

DEFINITION: The New York State Department of Health interprets the natural sciences* as Biology, Chemistry, Physics or a related field and applied sciences as science based courses in environmental, sanitation or medical technology, public health, infection control or food science.

NOTE: Unless otherwise noted, only experience gained after attaining the minimum education level indicated in the minimum qualifications will be considered in evaluating experience.