

SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL BACTERIOLOGIST

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: Under the general supervision of the Chief-Environmental Laboratory Services, the incumbent of this position organizes and directs the activities of the Environmental Bacteriology Laboratory. Incumbents perform advanced environmental bacteriological examinations, and initiates, coordinates and conducts independent research of new, improved or approved methods, procedures or standards. This position is directly responsible for maintaining and evaluating quality control. Supervision is exercised over professional and technical environmental laboratory personnel. The incumbent must maintain a satisfactory rating of performance by the New York State Department of Health for those procedures for which approval has been granted to the laboratory. Does related work as required.

EXAMPLES OF WORK: (Illustrative Only)

Assists the Chief-Environmental Laboratory Services in the implementation of the quality control program by assuring that specimens are received in stable condition, checking and testing the operation of equipment and instruments, maintaining quality control manuals, laboratory methods and instrument manuals;

Checks media viability utilizing positive and negative control organisms, performing sterility checks, comparative examinations and surveys, toxicity, residuals, humidity, and media;

Supervises, directs and instructs the subordinate professional and technical staff in the environmental bacteriological examination of natural and treated waters, waste-waters, estuarine waters, swimming pools, and bathing places, dairy products, baby formula, restaurant swabs and food; performs advanced bacteriological examinations;

Plans, coordinates and conducts research of environmental bacteriology methods and procedures which include advance examinations, evaluation and interpretation of results, and evaluation of the appropriateness of procedures and examinations utilized in specific instances;

Assists in preparing environmental laboratory budget requests by identifying needs, gathering and compiling appropriate justifications, evaluating new instrumentation and equipment as to its applicability for environmental laboratory operations;

Oversees installation of new equipment and instrumentation as well as its implementation for laboratory use;

Keeps abreast of current trends as well as changes in the field of environmental science that may affect operations;

Insures that adequate inventories of laboratory supplies are maintained;

Collaborates with Health Department personnel regarding sampling procedures;

EXAMPLES OF WORK: (Illustrative Only) (Cont'd.)

Prepares daily, monthly, annual and other reports as required;

Maintains assigned areas, instrumentation and equipment in a clean and safe manner and at operational readiness;

Testifies in court or before other administrative hearings regarding results and interpretations of examinations;

Participates in the New York State Department of Health proficiency testing programs in the assigned areas of discipline;

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: Thorough knowledge of the theory, principles, techniques, procedures and applications of environmental bacteriology; thorough knowledge of environmental bacteriology laboratory operations including methods, equipment and procedures; thorough knowledge of current developments in environmental laboratory science; thorough knowledge of the microscope; good knowledge of federal, state and local laws, rules, regulations and policies as they apply to the operation of the environmental laboratory; ability to plan and conduct independent professional scientific research to improve laboratory methods and procedures and prepare comprehensive reports of findings and recommendations; ability to perform prolonged microscopic examinations; ability to plan, organize and supervise the utilization and work of assigned professional and technical laboratory personnel; ability to understand, follow and explain technical instruction; ability to communicate effectively both orally and in writing; ability to follow detailed oral and written instructions; 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 tasks of the position; accuracy; thoroughness; dependability; initiative; judgment; integrity; physical condition commensurate with the demands of the position.

MINIMUM ACCEPTABLE TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE: Bachelor's Degree* in a Biological Science and seven years of professional environmental bacteriological experience in a recognized laboratory including two years of supervisory experience.

SUBSTITUTION: Possession of a Master's Degree* in Biological Science may be substituted at the rate of 30 credits per year for up to two years of the professional environmental bacteriology experience in a recognized laboratory. There is no substitution for the 2 years of supervisory experience.

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

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

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J.C.: Competitive
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Job Class Code: C2594
Job Group: XIII