

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEER

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: This position exists in the Division of Environmental Health in the Health Department. An employee in this class has charge of planning, directing and administering one or more environmental health programs. The work involves furnishing engineering advice and guidance to local officials and the general public in regard to environmental health problems and the measures necessary for improvements and compliance with legal requirements; providing leadership in promotion of public health through application of environmental health practices; enforcement of the provisions of the Public Health Law and Sanitary Code in relation to environmental health matters involving application of engineering principles for the detection, evaluation, control and management of those factors in the environment which influence health. Supervision is exercised over assigned subordinate public health personnel. Does related work as required.

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:

Guides and directs education and regulatory activities pertaining to the assigned programs;

Supervises enforcement of provisions of local and State Public Health Laws and Sanitary Codes relating to public water supplies, sewage and waste disposal, operation of water and sewage treatment plants, swimming pools and bathing beaches, camps, hotels, realty subdivisions, qualifications of water and sewage treatment plant operators, public health nuisances and related matters;

Maintains relationships and cooperates with State and Federal agencies whose work or policies affect the environmental health program;

Prepares technical reports including recommendations;

Aids in developing public health engineering and environmental health policies;

Reviews and may approve plans and specifications for water and sewage disposal systems, solid waste facilities, and planned subdivisions;

Supervises State Pollution Discharge Elimination System permit process including reviewing new and renewal applications and commenting on the issuance of permits to the responsible agency;

Provides technical assistance and supervision to engineering and public health inspection staff members;

Provides advice and assistance on public health engineering matters to consulting engineers, local officials and the public;

Participates in enforcement proceedings, including giving testimony at hearings;

Supervises engineering section and may approve permits and plans for subdivisions, water supply and sewage systems;

Interprets the results of laboratory samples of air, water, sewage;

Inspects water, sewage disposal, subdivision and solid waste disposal sites;

Provides community education on environmental issues and concerns by public speaking engagements and issuing news releases.

FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:

Thorough knowledge of the principles, practices and techniques of public health engineering and environmental health as related to subdivisions, water supplies and purification, sewage disposal, water pollution, solid waste disposal, swimming pools, bathing beaches, radon, chemical and oil spills, etc.;

Thorough knowledge of the Public Health Law and State and County Sanitary Code and other laws pertaining to the above subjects;

Good knowledge of public health engineering techniques and practices;

Skill in public health engineering techniques and practices;

Ability to plan, develop, direct and administer environmental health engineering and related programs;

Ability to prepare reports and correspondence;

Ability to communicate effectively both orally and in writing;

Ability to prepare a variety of reports;

Ability to deal with the public and officials in a diplomatic manner;

Ability to develop and maintain good public relations, initiative and resourcefulness in solving public health engineering problems;

Ability to supervise the work of others.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Possession of a license to practice and current registration as a professional engineer in New York State and either:

A) Two years' experience as a Public Health Engineer, one of which must have included supervisory responsibility; OR

B) Four years' experience as a civil, environmental or chemical engineer, one of which must have included supervisory responsibility.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT: Possession of a current valid New York State driver's license is required at the time of appointment.