

PUBLIC HEALTH EDUCATOR

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: This position exists in the Health Department and involves the application of the principles of behavioral sciences in public health to foster the voluntary adaptation of behavior to improve or maintain health, including planning, directing, administering and evaluating public health education services for group and community needs. The work is performed under the general direction of the Supervising Public Health Educator. Oversees the work of clerical staff as well as sub-contracted partners as needed. Does related work as required.

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:

Organizes and directs educational efforts to influence public attitudes and behavior with regard to given health needs;
Designs, implements, evaluates and teaches programs to improve health and wellness through increased awareness of health risk behavior and targeted risk factor reduction program;
Conducts group and individual wellness promotion/disease prevention activities;
Conducts studies and surveys of public health education needs and evaluates the materials and methods used to determine the effectiveness of the program;
Monitors and evaluates grant programs through State and internal statistical reports;
Plans and directs workshops, institutes, forums and discussion groups to promote public health and health education;
Collaborates with other health specialists and civic groups to ascertain health needs, develop desirable health goals and determine availability of professional health services;
Prepares budget requests for health education operations;
Prepares and distributes educational and informational materials;
Serves on community committees for health promotions.

FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGES, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:

Good knowledge of the basic principles, practices, techniques and administration of public health education;
Working knowledge of education principles and motivational techniques;
Skill in educational techniques and methods of communication;
Ability to work with other health professionals as a team;
Ability to conduct group and individual counseling sessions;
Ability to establish and maintain cooperative relations with community agencies and different ethnic groups;
Ability to prepare health education materials such as pamphlets, posters, slide shows or newsletters;
Ability to lay out work;
Good organizational skills;
Physical condition commensurate with the demands of the position.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS*:

- A) Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State college or university with a Master's Degree in public health or health education; OR
- B) Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State college or university with a Bachelor's Degree or higher in health education, health science, public health, health promotion, community health or health communications; OR
- C) Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State college or university with a Bachelor's Degree in education, nursing, epidemiology, wellness and fitness, or nutrition and one year of experience in health education; OR
- D) Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State college or university with a Bachelor's Degree in marketing, human services, social work or psychology and two years of experience in health education.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT: Within one year of appointment, an incumbent in this position must complete fifteen (15) hours of continuing education related to topics approved by the New York State Health Department.

*Per Section 11.151 of the New York State Sanitary Code:
Qualifications of Public Health Professionals (10 NYCRR)

R153 8/20/08

COMPETITIVE