Jurisdiction Class: Competitive
EEO Category: Professional
Revised: 10/27/2026

PUBLIC HEALTH SANITARIAN

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: This position exists in the Oneida County Department of Public Health and involves responsibility in the investigation and inspection of the non-engineering aspects of environmental health control. The Public Health Sanitarian applies the principles of physical, biological, and social sciences for the detection, evaluation, control, and management of those factors in the environment which influence health. The incumbent performs under the supervision of a higher-level Public Health Sanitarian. Supervision is exercised over subordinate technical personnel. The incumbent performs related work as required.

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES: (Illustrative Only)

Inspects food service establishments, private water supplies, private disposal systems, bathing beaches and swimming pools, facilities for refuse disposal, temporary and/or permanent residences, farm labor camps, and mobile home parks;
Conducts lead poisoning and nuisance investigations;
Conducts air pollution studies and soil percolation tests;
Assists in investigations of outbreaks of diseases;
Collects water, milk, food, lead dust wipes, soil, and other samples for laboratory examination;
Investigates environmental nuisances;
Prepares reports on inspections and investigations;
Interprets laboratory reports;
Supervises and trains subordinate personnel;
May testify at enforcement proceedings.

FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS: Good knowledge of environmental health principles, practices, and inspection methods; ability to inspect for, and detect, environmental health problems and hazards; ability to plan and supervise the work of technical employees; ability to prepare and deliver effective talks and secure the interest and cooperation of civic groups and officials; ability to train others in environmental health work; ability to develop good public relations; good professional judgment.

Continued…

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Either:

(A) Possession of Bachelor's Degree including thirty (30) credit hours in the natural sciences* of which not more than twelve (12) credit hours may be in the applied sciences**; **OR**

(B) Graduation from high school or possession of a high school equivalency diploma **AND** five (5) years of experience as a Public Health Technician deemed satisfactory by the local commissioner of health or public health director and have satisfactorily completed a public health training course approved by the State Health Department.

*The term natural science shall mean a science such as biology, chemistry or physics that deals with the objects phenomena, or laws of nature and the physical world. It shall include all physical and biological sciences.

**The term applied science shall mean science-based courses in environmental technology, sanitation technology, medical technology, public health, infection control or food science.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:

1. Possession of a valid New York State driver's license at time of appointment. License must remain valid throughout appointment.
2. Appointees must satisfactorily complete a public health training course approved by the New York State Department of Health within two (2) years of appointment.

NOTE: Degree(s) must have been awarded by a college or university accredited by a regional, national, or specialized agency recognized as an accrediting agency by the U.S. Department of Education/U.S. Secretary of Education. If the degree was awarded by an educational institution outside the United States and its territories, the candidate must provide independent verification of equivalency. A list of acceptable companies who provide this service can be found on the Internet at http://www.cs.ny.gov/jobseeker/degrees.cfm. Candidates will be required to pay the evaluation fee.

Adopted: 12/14/1984
Revised: 07/05/1989, 09/06/1991, 06/22/1994, 09/19/1996, 06/12/2006, 07/15/2010; 07/10/2018; 09/19/2018, 12/30/2022, 02/14/2024, 08/27/2024, 10/27/2026