Jurisdictional Class: Competitive
EEO Category: Technicians
Revised: 11/02/2026

PUBLIC HEALTH TECHNICIAN I

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: This entry-level position exists in the Oneida County Department of Public Health and involves responsibility for assisting Public Health Sanitarians and Engineers in carrying out the various elements of prevention and control programs affecting public health. Employees in this class are responsible for conducting inspections and carrying out specialized phases of the environmental health program in the health department. Duties involve gathering information for use by Public Health Sanitarians and Engineers in determining compliance with local and New York State Sanitary Code requirements. The work is performed under general supervision of either a higher-level technical or professional employee, who reviews reports and provides advisory assistance as necessary. Supervision over the work of others is not usually a responsibility of employees in this class. The incumbent performs related work as required.

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES: (Illustrative Only)

Performs routine and follow-up inspections of sanitary conditions of campgrounds, temporary residences, farm labor housing, mobile home parks, and other premises including public or individual water supplies and sewage disposal devices, refuse disposal, air pollution, public health nuisance complaints, and general sanitation;

Advises homeowners and local officials on methods and procedures relating to insect and rodent control;

Performs routine and follow-up inspections of swimming pools and beaches to determine compliance with local and New York State Sanitary Code requirements;

Collects samples of drinking water for laboratory analysis to determine organic, inorganic, and bacterial contamination;

Tests drinking water samples for chlorine levels;

Performs routine and follow-up inspections of restaurants and public eating places, including arrangements of food handling and storage, food service, dishwashing, and disinfection of dishes and utensils;

Performs routine and follow-up inspections of public health nuisances such as mosquito and fly breeding places, rodent harborages, and related matters and advises local officials of corrective measures;

Performs routine visual inspections or re-inspections of homes for safety hazards;

Advises homeowners on bat control, including repellants and building improvement to prevent entry;

Advises homeowners, tenants, and landlords on methods and procedures to reduce safety hazards in the home;

Aids homeowners, local officials, and commercial operators on proper sanitary operation of wells, pumps, and water protection;

Maintains records and completes inspection reports related to work.

May collect and deliver suspected diseased animals to New York State laboratories for analysis;

May inspect sites;

May provide and review health related and safety hazard reduction materials with homeowners, tenants, and landlords.

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FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS: Working knowledge of basic principles and practices related to proper environmental public health inspection techniques; working knowledge of applicable provisions of the New York State Sanitary Code related to environmental public health inspections; working knowledge of general principles of biology, chemistry, and general science; working knowledge of community agencies and referral processes; ability to establish and maintain cooperative relationships with the public; ability to understand and interpret written material; ability to solve arithmetic problems related to environmental public health inspections; ability to prepare accurate reports; skill in health inspection techniques.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Either:

(A) Possession of an Associate's Degree in biology, biochemistry, chemistry, engineering, environmental health, environmental science, environmental studies, geochemistry, geology, health science, industrial hygiene, natural science, physical science, public health, or closely related field; **OR**

(B) Satisfactory completion of sixty (60) semester credit hours of academic education at a regionally accredited or New York State registered college or university, which must include a minimum of fifteen (15) credit hours in the natural sciences*, of which not more than six (6) credit hours may be in the applied sciences**

*****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.

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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.

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