

PUBLIC HEALTH SPECIALIST I (YIDDISH-SPEAKING)

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: This is professional work involving responsibility for providing education and implementing programs in disease control and prevention. The work requires the incumbent to possess speaking and reading ability in Yiddish at the fluency level indicated below in the Note. General supervision is received from a higher-level administrator and work guidance (e.g., lead work) may be provided to others. Does related work as required.

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:

Coordinates and delivers educational programs for department offices, public and private agencies and community organizations in the areas of disease control and prevention;
Provides education to staff in communicable disease prevention and treatment;
Performs community outreach by meeting with community leaders and groups to distribute literature and provide information on communicable diseases;
Investigates and monitors known or potential sources of suspected infections and/or communicable diseases to determine original source, ensure infection control and assist in the reduction of transmission;
Conducts surveillance activities to monitor, control and prevent the spread of communicable diseases;
Conducts special projects and studies, as required;
Performs data collection and analysis and prepares written reports on same;
Maintain a variety of records, including epidemiological and case record investigations;
May draw blood samples from patients.

FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:

Good knowledge of the principles and practices of communicable disease control and prevention; good knowledge of basic terminology related to sexually-transmitted infections, tuberculosis, AIDS and other communicable diseases; working knowledge of public health rules and regulations, especially as they relate to the prevention and control of communicable diseases; ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing; ability to prepare reports, including routine activity and statistical reports; ability to speak, read and understand colloquial Yiddish and to translate into acceptable English; awareness, knowledge and understanding of Yiddish culture and mores.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

1. A Bachelor's degree in Public Health, Health Education, Epidemiology, Nursing or comparable degree and one (1) year of post-degree experience in professional activities related to communicable disease control and/or prevention*; or
2. A Bachelor's degree and two (2) years of post-degree experience in professional activities related to communicable disease control and/or prevention*; or
3. A Master's degree in Public Health, Health Education, Epidemiology, Nursing, or comparable degree which included or was supplemented by nine (9) or more credit hours in communicable disease control.

*Professional activities related to communicable disease control and/or prevention include conducting community outreach, investigating and tracing cases and outbreaks, surveillance, etc.

(over)

NOTE: Incumbents are expected to possess a Level II proficiency in Yiddish (as defined by the Examinations Division of the State of New York Department of Civil Service) which requires that the incumbent: be able to speak the language with sufficient structural accuracy and vocabulary to participate effectively in most formal and informal conversations on practical, social and professional topics not requiring specialized vocabulary (e.g. technical engineering, medicine, etc.); can discuss particular interests and special fields of competence in general terms with reasonable ease; possesses adequate comprehension to normal rate of speech; has good control of grammar and errors do not interfere with understanding; can read with understanding a standard newspaper, correspondence and official documents.

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Competitive

09.24.2024 New York State Civil Service approved Non-competitive title in the NY HELPS Program.