

TECHNICAL SPECIALIST (ENTOMOLOGY)

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: Under general supervision an incumbent develops, implements and oversees programs related to the surveillance and control of vertebrate and invertebrate carriers, such as mosquitoes and ticks, of human disease. Responsibilities include the coordination and oversight of the day-to-day operations of the surveillance, collection, identification and testing of suspect species. The incumbent participates in promoting public education, encouraging community awareness and regional prevention and control measures and assists in other environmental health programs as needed. Supervision is exercised over a number of technical and support personnel. Does related work as required.

EXAMPLES OF WORK: (Illustrative Only)

Supervises staff and oversees programs for the surveillance and control of arthropod borne diseases;

Monitors and oversees the personnel, equipment and supplies required to monitor invertebrate carriers of human disease;

Develops operational strategies for the collection, identification and testing of invertebrate carriers of human disease, including field, laboratory and administration;

Evaluates and makes recommendations for mosquito surveillance needs;

Develops, in conjunction with the vertebrate program, systems and databases required for data collection and analysis, reviews and analyzes data and provides regular summaries and reports;

Uses relevant Geographical Information Systems (GIS) and other applications to assist in monitoring;

Monitors testing status and results for all submitted specimens, and provides required information and reports related to this program;

Participates in the establishment of guidelines for treatment and prevention recommendations;

Inspects regulated equipment/facilities and environmental incidents;

Trains Public Health Sanitarians, Environmental Health Technicians and other personnel as required;

Uses computer applications or automated systems such as spreadsheets, word processing, calendar, e-mail, and database software in performing work assignments;

May perform other incidental tasks as needed.

REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND ATTRIBUTES: Thorough knowledge of the principles and practices of the surveillance and control of invertebrate carriers of human diseases; thorough knowledge of the principles and practices of entomology; good knowledge of field survey and control techniques; good knowledge of the principles and practices of public health; ability to read, write, speak, understand and communicate in English sufficiently to perform the essential tasks of the position; ability to develop control programs; ability to comprehend and interpret laws and regulations related to public health; ability to analyze specimens, detect and investigate problems and make recommendations supported by available evidence; ability to use computer applications or other automated systems such as spreadsheets, word processing, calendar, e-mail and database software; ability to communicate effectively both verbally and in writing; ability to plan and supervise the work of others; ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with governmental agencies, community agencies and the public; initiative; reliability; thoroughness; good judgment; physical ability commensurate with the demands of the position.

MINIMUM ACCEPTABLE TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE: Possession of a Bachelor's Degree* in Biology, Entomology, Invertebrate Zoology or related science field and three years of field or research experience where the primary function of the position was in vector surveillance or control in a public health, governmental agency or academic setting.

SUBSTITUTION: Successful completion of a Master's Degree* as described in (a) which included major coursework in entomology and/or invertebrate zoology may substitute at the rate of 30 credits per year of experience, up to a maximum of one year of experience.

SUBSTITUTION: Coursework toward a Ph. D.* in Entomology may be substituted for experience at the rate of 30 credits per year of experience, up to a maximum of two years of experience.

*SPECIAL NOTE: Education beyond the secondary level must be from an institution recognized or accredited by the Board of Regents of the New York State Education Department as a post-secondary, degree-granting institution.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT: Possession of a valid license to operate a motor vehicle in the State of New York.

NOTE: Unless otherwise noted, only experience gained after attaining the minimum education level indicated in the minimum qualifications will be considered in evaluating experience.