

CLASS TITLE:

MEDICAL EPIDEMIOLOGIST

Class Code: 02946600

Pay Grade: 43A

EO: B

CLASS DEFINITION:

GENERAL STATEMENT OF DUTIES: To be responsible for the administration of a state-wide public health program for the control of various communicable diseases, as well as cancer, effects of toxic exposure and other chronic and infectious diseases; to investigate such medical cases and analyze the results of the investigations performed in order to ascertain probable and/or possible causes for disease epidemic and disease clusters; to formulate recommendations for disease and/or toxic exposure control not only on an individual basis but on the community at large; and to do related work as required.

SUPERVISION RECEIVED: Works under the direction of a superior with considerable latitude for the exercise of independent judgement and initiative; work is reviewed through conferences and reports for conformance to established laws, rules, regulations and policies and adherence to accepted epidemiology standards, practices and techniques.

SUPERVISION EXERCISED: Plans, organizes, directs, supervises, and reviews, and the work of a professional, technical and clerical staff.

ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLES OF WORK PERFORMED:

To be responsible for the administration of a statewide public health program for the control of various communicable diseases, as well as cancer, effects of toxic exposure due to chemical, physical or nuclear contacts and other chronic and infectious diseases.

To be responsible for monitoring the occurrence of communicable and non-communicable diseases and to investigate such cases and analyze the results of the investigations performed in order to ascertain probable and/or possible causes for diseases epidemics and disease clusters; and to formulate recommendations for disease and/or toxic exposure control not only on an individual basis but on the community at large.

To review, periodically, the various activities of the program and to evaluate their effectiveness in the decrease, control and prevention of communicable non-communicable diseases and to take necessary action to improve the program.

To be responsible for developing methods and procedures designed to monitor chronic diseases and their epidemic threat; to employ survey methods to ascertain risk factors throughout the state and to analyze and interpret survey findings and to consult with a superior thereon.

To be responsible for the direction, supervision, review, and evaluation of the work of professional, technical and clerical personnel engaged in providing effective public health education and services in the field of epidemiology.

To recommend amendments or revisions of existing laws and regulations and to recommend new laws and regulations relating to the program's activities when needed in order for the overall program to accommodate scientific and technical advances.

To be responsible for appraising morbidity and mortality reports received from the United States, as well as countries and organizations around the world.

To participate in the department's public health education program in providing professional information and advice encompassing epidemiological diseases and their control and prevention.

To be responsible for supervising and reviewing the publication and dissemination of communicable and non communicable disease reports utilized by physicians, local health officials, school officials, news media and various health agencies.

To maintain an effective liaison with other state departments and agencies.

To do related work as required.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS FOR APPOINTMENT:

KNOWLEDGES, SKILLS AND CAPACITIES: A thorough knowledge of the principles practices and techniques of biochemical science and epidemiology and the ability to apply such knowledge in the administration of a state-wide public health program involving the control of communicable and non communicable diseases; the ability to investigate outbreaks of communicable diseases, cancer clusters and the health effects of toxic exposure and to formulate recommendations for the control and prevention of said diseases; the ability to evaluate the effectiveness of the epidemiology program and to make recommendations for its improvement; the ability to direct, supervise and evaluate the work of a professional, technical and clerical staff; the ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with superiors and associates, the community, and public and private health organizations and as required to address such groups on matters of disease control and prevention; and related capacities and abilities.

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:

Education: Such as may have been gained through: graduation from an approved medical school of recognized standing or graduation from an approved school of Veterinary Medicine; and

Experience: Such as may have been gained through: considerable employment in a responsible position which required the administration of a major health program concerned with Public Health Epidemiology.

Or, any combination of education and experience that shall be substantially equivalent to the above education and experience.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT: At the time of appointment, must meet established requirements of the Rhode Island Department of Health to practice Medicine or Veterinarian Medicine in Rhode Island and must maintain such requirements as a condition of employment.

Class Created: November 24, 1985

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