

## **Public Health Specialist**

The County of Schenectady is seeking to fill a vacancy in our Public Health Department for a Public Health Specialist. This position will be part of a public health team that applies preventative and public health knowledge, techniques and skills to reduce the incidence of communicable disease within Schenectady County. Based on data from disease reporting systems and surveillance of disease trends, the incumbent will conduct confidential investigations of persons suspected of being either the source or known contact of a communicable STD/HIV case. The work is performed under the supervision of the Supervising Public Health Nurse. Supervision may be exercised over a variety of volunteers and interns and the incumbent will be expected to do related work as required.

### Typical Work Activities:

Performs venipuncture/fingerstick testing in the field prn;  
Conducts epidemiological case finding, timely disease surveillance and reporting;  
Incorporates evidence based interventions into face-face interactions;  
Conducts public health field investigations, personal interviews, and the review of records to secure or verify factual information for research and control purposes in public health STD/HIV control programs;  
Establish and maintain effective liaison with local health organizations and interested groups in support of public health programs;  
Collect and reviews data and prepares written reports, provides counseling to individuals focusing on disease prevention strategies and promoting good health and wellness;  
Intermittent interaction with providers to ensure and promote provider responsibilities, guidelines for diagnosis and treatment and procedures for case reporting;  
Provide information, referral and assistance in utilizing appropriate community service programs;  
Promote and disseminate information for promotion of health behaviors/reduction in risk factors associated with STD/HIV and related health disparities;  
Provide routine feedback of morbidity statistics to providers;  
Implement protocols for addressing non-reporting by medical providers, laboratories, and health care facilities;  
Conducts therapy monitoring and partner services;  
Provide regular communication to medical providers and facilities to ensure appropriate reporting in regards to screening, treatment recommendations and partner notification;  
Prioritize and refer patients for partner services identified as high risk as determined by epidemiological parameters;  
Target populations with high-risk behaviors for educational outreach;  
Increase community awareness and recognition of disease symptoms and promote safer sex practices;  
Promote and implement community and individual level change and interventions;  
Ensure compliance with public health law and mandated state reporting requirement as well as involvement in public health outreach, prevention, referral, case and contract management and education activities.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

- (A) Graduation from a regionally accredited or NYS registered college or university with a bachelor's degree in Public Health, Community Health, Health Promotion, Education, Psychology, Social Work, or Human Services and one (1) year experience providing direct patient/client services in a healthcare organization, or in a mental health, communicable disease, or alcohol/substance abuse counseling program; OR
- (B) Graduation from a school of nursing approved by the New York State Education Department from a course approved by such department as qualifying for Registered Professional Nurse, possession of a license issued by the State of New York to practice as a Registered Professional Nurse and two (2) years of experience as a Registered Professional Nurse in a health, mental health, communicable disease or alcohol/substance abuse program.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS (AT THE TIME OF APPOINTMENT): A valid NYS Driver's license is required at the time of hiring and shall be maintained during the full term of employment.

Interested applicants should submit their resume and cover letter by March 17, 2017 to:

**Lisa A. Ayers, Director of Public Health Services**  
Schenectady County Public Health Services  
107 Nott Terrace, Suite 304  
Schenectady, NY 12308  
Email: [lisa.ayers@schenectadycounty.com](mailto:lisa.ayers@schenectadycounty.com)

**Competitive salary, NYS Retirement System, tuition reimbursement, health and dental coverage available.**

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