ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH TECHNICIAN

This is beginning level technician work in a local health department. Employees perform independently in less complex and well-defined environmental health programs, or perform in a supportive role under the supervision of sanitartians in the more complex programs. Work may include other duties as assigned.

I. DIFFICULTY OF WORK:

Complexity - Assignments are limited to a single program or to a limited number of programs where tasks are repetitive.

Guidelines - Work is performed under well-established guidelines that are directly applicable to the work process. Limited interpretation may be needed to apply these guidelines to specific work situations.

II. RESPONSIBILITY:

Accountability - Employee represents the health department to members of the community and to private contractors through inspections, surveys, and complaint investigations. Employee is responsible for the consistent and accurate application of rules and regulations. Actions could affect the effectiveness of the program in which involved.

Consequence of Action - Failure to coordinate preventive programs or improper investigation of complaints could result in inconvenience to a given population, or could result in limited financial loss where contractual agreements are involved, or could lead to the possible spread of disease within a limited area.

Review - Most work is reviewed on a continuous basis by a review of records, reports, and by on-site work evaluation. Complex problems or work situations are discussed in advanced with higher level technicians or sanitarians and are monitored on an on-going basis while work is in progress. Unusual situations encountered in the field are referred to higher level technicians or sanitarians for interpretation of regulations.

III. INTERPERSONAL COMMUNICATIONS:

Subject Matters - State, local, and Federal environmental health laws and regulations may not be completely understood by the general public. When dealing with contractors or professionals, the subject matter is usually easily understood by all.

Purpose - Employees receive and convey information, explain rules and regulations, and persuade individuals to comply with laws and regulations.

IV. WORK ENVIRONMENT:

Nature of Working Conditions - Work is done primarily in the field with requirements to work in inclement weather, in unimproved areas, or in areas where unhealthy or unsanitary conditions exist.

Nature and Potential of Personal Hazards - Employee is exposed to personal injury and potential for disease through working in unimproved areas or in areas where unhealthy or unsanitary conditions exist.
V. RECRUITMENT STANDARDS:

Knowledges, Skills, and Abilities - Knowledge of basic mathematics. Ability to read, explain, and apply regulations. Ability to understand basic technical data. Ability to communicate, persuasively and effectively, both orally and in writing. Ability to carry out written and oral assignments. Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with associates and the general public. Ability to maintain complete and accurate records and reports.

Minimum Training and Experience Requirements - High school diploma and one year of experience which provides the required knowledge and abilities to perform the work; or an equivalent combination of training and experience.