

EPIDEMIOLOGIST 1

Nature of Work: Under general supervision, performs work at the full-performance level by overseeing case investigations, data collection, and data and information dissemination. Provides input to more senior epidemiologists on design of surveillance systems and studies based on observations in the field, and implements studies and surveillance systems in collaboration with more senior epidemiologists. Provides educational resources to public health, medical, government officials, and members of the public. Trains and provides consultation to local health department personnel. Works collaboratively with other epidemiologists, public health and medical professionals and citizens. Performs related work as required.

Distinguishing Characteristics: The Epidemiologist 1 generally does not have lead responsibility for study design or surveillance system design, but often carries responsibility for data collection or implementation of a study or a surveillance system, usually at the community or regional level.

Examples of Work

- Conducts epidemiologic case investigations and studies of infections, chronic, environmental, occupational and/or sexually transmitted diseases.
- Teaches or trains others to perform case investigations and studies of infectious, chronic, environmental, occupational, and/or sexually transmitted diseases.
- Identifies and teaches others to identify unusual occurrences of disease, including outbreaks, clusters, increases or other unusual trends in disease incidences or risks.
- Participates in or advises local health departments in outbreak response, including organization of outbreak teams, assignment of duties, collection of laboratory specimens, collection of data for line listings or in other standardized formats, and standardized interviews of cases and controls.
- Collects data or assists others in collection of data in a standardized format.
- Reviews findings of case investigations and recommends control or prevention measures based on scientifically sound technical resources.
- Maintains and prepares required records and reports.
- Gives educational presentations to professionals and lay groups.

EPIDEMIOLOGIST 1 (CONT'D)**Examples of Work (cont'd)**

- Develops informational materials for lay groups, media, and professionals.
- Provides consultative and technical assistance as requested.
- Develops relationships with reporting sources, including physicians, hospitals, clinics, laboratories, and others for the purpose of improving disease surveillance and control.
- Develops and cultivates relationships with local health departments for the purpose of training, consultation and education about disease prevention, control, and surveillance.

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities

- Knowledge of the principles, practices, and techniques related to epidemiology.
- Knowledge of current developments in epidemiology and the area of disease specialization.
- Knowledge of federal, state and local laws and regulations pertaining to public health.
- Knowledge of the public health system at the federal, state and local levels.
- Knowledge of the risk factors for disease in the area of specialization.
- Skill in oral and written communications.
- Ability to implement surveys and studies on a local or regional level in collaboration with senior epidemiologists.
- Ability to interpret rules, regulations, policies, standards and objectives of epidemiologic programs to local health department personnel, medical professionals, community organizations, and the general public.
- Ability to review and interpret information from case investigations and make recommendations on control measures based on standardized protocols.
- Ability to provide technical advice and guidance to local health personnel on data collection and case investigation and disease prevention and control.
- Ability to conduct training sessions for local health personnel on proper data collection methods and report preparation.

EPIDEMIOLOGIST 1 (CONT'D)

Minimum Qualifications

Training: Master's degree in epidemiology, public health, biology, physical, behavioral, natural, or veterinary sciences from an accredited college or university.

OR

Graduation from an accredited school of nursing with state licensure and three years of full-time or equivalent part-time paid experience in conducting epidemiology.

Substitution: Bachelor's degree in biology, physical, behavioral, or natural sciences from an accredited college or university, AND two years of full-time or equivalent part-time paid experience in conducting epidemiology, including disease investigation, risk assessment or environmental epidemiology may substitute for the required training.

For Arboviral Entomologist:

Training: Master's degree from an accredited college or university in entomology or biology.

Experience: One year of full-time or equivalent part-time paid experience in entomology.

Established: 8/20/92
Revised: 7/20/95, 2/22/99, 5/29/01, 7/9/01, 11/21/02,
8/27/04
Effective: 8/27/04