

MEDICAL TECHNOLOGIST

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS:

This is a responsible professional position which involves the performance of a variety of clinical laboratory tests in the Department of Health. An incumbent in this class performs specialized technical microbiological analysis of specimens leading to the diagnosis and treatment of disease. This class differs from that of Environmental Laboratory Technician I and II by virtue of the increased level of analytical complexity and by the nature of the specimen being tested, i.e. bodily fluid specimens versus food or water samples. Since the treatment of patients often depends upon laboratory results, the incumbent is indirectly responsible for the health and life of patients. Work is performed under the general supervision of the Commissioner of Health or a Clinical Physician with leeway allowed for approved alterations in procedures or techniques as the need arises. Although supervision is not normally a function of the class, an incumbent may provide technical expertise and guidance in the area of specialization.

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:

1. Performs a variety of clinical laboratory tests for the STD Clinic which include: pregnancy, syphilis serology, gram stain on swab from male and female, wet mount, chlamydia testing by ELISA technique and DFA;
2. Draws bloods, processes and prepares cultures and blood specimens;
3. Collects throat cultures;
4. Identifies bacteria and parasites;
5. Records results of tests and completes necessary reports;
6. Keeps a log book of all patient specimens;
7. Operates, maintains, and troubleshoots automated or specialized equipment and instrumentation as necessary, providing instruction as needed;
8. Provides technical assistance as needed in Microbiology;
9. Maintains an adequate quality control program, including analysis of state or other control specimens;
10. Keeps abreast of developments of new techniques or improvements in published or existing methods;
11. Does related work as required.

FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:

Good knowledge of the principles, techniques, procedures, instrumentation and safety precautions in the field of Microbiology; skill in the operation, calibration, troubleshooting and routine maintenance of modern laboratory equipment and instrumentation used in Microbiology; knowledge of infectious diseases; ability to conduct tests and analyses of specimens, detect and investigate problems, and make evaluations supported by experimental evidence; proficiency in lab procedures such as: culture and sensitivity of microorganisms and serological testing; ability to understand, follow and explain medical and technical instruction; ability to implement quality control standards; dependability; accuracy; sound professional judgment; physical condition commensurate with the demands of the position.

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MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

- EITHER: (A) Successful completion of a full course of study which meets all academic requirements for a bachelor's degree in medical technology from an accredited college or university;
- OR: (B) Successful completion of three academic years of study (a minimum of 90 semester credit hours or equivalent) in an accredited college or university which met the specific requirements for entrance into, and the successful completion of a course of training of at least 12 months in a school of medical technology approved by the Council on Medical Education of the American Medical Association;
- OR: (C) Successful completion in an accredited college or university of a course of study which meets all academic requirements for a bachelor's degree in one of the chemical, physical or biological sciences and, in addition, at least one year of pertinent laboratory experience and/or training covering the specialty(ies) or subspecialty(ies) in which he/she performs tests, provided the combination has given the individual the equivalent in such specialty(ies) or subspecialty(ies) of the education and training described in (A) and (B) above;
- OR: (D) Successful completion of three years (90 semester hours or equivalent) in an accredited college or university with a distribution of courses as shown below, and, in addition, successful experience and/or training covering several fields of medical laboratory work of such length (not less than one year) and of such quality that this experience or training, when combined with the education, will have provided the individual with education and training in medical technology equivalent to that described in (A) and (B) above. Distribution of course work (Where semester hours are stated, it is understood that the equivalent in quarter hours is equally acceptable. The specified courses must have included lecture and laboratory work. Survey courses are not acceptable.)

NOTES:

1. For those whose training was completed prior to September 15, 1963: At least 24 semester hours in chemistry and biology courses of which not less than nine semester hours must have been in chemistry and must have included at least six semester hours in inorganic chemistry, and not less than 12 semester hours must have been in biology courses pertinent to medical sciences.
2. For those whose training was completed after September 15, 1963: 16 semester hours in chemistry courses, which included at least six semester hours in inorganic chemistry and are acceptable toward a major in chemistry; 16 semester hours in biology courses which are pertinent to the medical sciences and are acceptable toward a major in the biological sciences; and three semester hours of mathematics.
3. With respect to individuals first qualifying prior to April 1, 1972, an exception to the requirements in (A), (B), (C), and (D) above may be made if: (a) the technologist was performing the duties of a medical technologist at any time between July 1, 1961 and September 1, 1971; (b) the technologist has had at least 10 years of pertinent clinical laboratory experience prior to September 1, 1971, provided that a minimum of 30 semester hours credit toward a bachelor's degree from an accredited institution with a chemical, physical, or a biological science as his major subject or 30 semester hours in an approved school of medical technology shall reduce the required years of experience by two years, with any additional hours further reducing the required years of experience at the rate of 15 hours for one year; and (c) he/she has performed the duties of a clinical laboratory technologist for at

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MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: (Cont'd)

NOTES: (Cont'd)

3. least two years during the qualifying 10 years in either: (1) a clinical laboratory having a director at the doctoral level, of a hospital, university, health department or medical research institution; **or** in a laboratory approved under the supplementary medical insurance program: Provided also that, where qualifying years in a laboratory described in this subparagraph are obtained after January 30, 1969, the laboratory meets applicable conditions under the Federal health insurance program, or under title 42, Code of Federal Regulations, part 74, the latter being the regulations issued pursuant to the Federal Clinical Laboratories Improvement Act of 1967.

Prescribed by New York State Sanitary Code, Section 58-1.5

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