

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: The work involves responsibility for administering and enforcing the New York State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code or local fire and/or building code as approved by the State Fire Prevention and Building Code Council. Under general supervision, provides for the coordination of all activities relevant to ensuring compliance with local Zoning Ordinances and other appropriate laws, codes, rules and regulations pertaining to new or existing buildings and structures. This may include seeking Court enforcement of orders. A Code Enforcement Officer may supervise the work of a small number of building/zoning personnel and/or clerical personnel. Does related work as required.

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES: (Illustrative only)

Maintains records concerning code enforcement activities, including applications received, permits and certificates issued, fees charged and collected inspection reports, etc.;

May supervise the operation of the municipal building/code enforcement department;

Inspects buildings and structures in the process of construction or repair for compliance with approved plans and specifications and recommends all requirements of applicable codes, ordinances and laws, and recommends certification of same;

Provides advice on the State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code, municipal building and/or zoning rules and regulations and other relevant State laws and rules to various boards and committees as well as the general public;

Reviews building permit applications, including building plans, to determine compliance with the New York State Uniform Fire Prevention, Building code, Energy Code, as well as local laws and zoning ordinances

Inspects existing buildings and structures to ensure conformity with codes;

Investigates complaints and attempts to resolve problems through consultation and enforcement, if necessary;

Issues, denies or revokes building permits and certificates of occupancy as required;

Orders code violations in existing structures to be removed and arranges for condemnation notices to owners and builders for improper or hazardous conditions pursuant to State or local laws;

Issues written notices to correct unsafe, illegal and dangerous conditions in existing structures;

May file complaints when appropriate, seeking Court enforcement of various codes.

May attend basic municipal meetings (i.e. Town, Zoning/Planning Boards, etc.) to make reports, answer questions and provide technical expertise as needed;

May coordinate review of development projects with other departments;

Advises the fire department, the DEC and other government entities of problems or developments for which they need to be informed;

Monitors the activities of electrical inspectors;

Prepares a variety of reports relevant to Code Enforcement activities for the municipal government.

FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:

Thorough knowledge of modern practices, principles, materials and tools used in building construction; thorough knowledge of building trades; good knowledge of the New York State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code and the local Zoning Code; good knowledge of the applications of municipal building codes; good knowledge of Americans with Disabilities Act and other relevant state and federal regulations; ability to enforce provisions of various laws; ability to establish and maintain cooperative relationships with public officials, building contractors, and the general public; ability to use a computer with moderate proficiency and to learn appropriate software programs; ability to read and interpret plans and specifications; ability to plan and supervise the work of subordinate personnel; ability to write clear and concise reports and to maintain records; physical condition commensurate with the demands of the position.

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MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: EITHER:

1. Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State college or university with an Associate's Degree, or higher, in Architecture, Civil or Structural Engineering, Construction Technology or a closely related field; OR
2. Graduation from high school or possession of a high school equivalency diploma AND two (2) years of full-time paid experience, or its part-time equivalent, in building or code inspection and/or enforcement OR in the design or construction of buildings as a project manager, building contractor or journey level skilled trade; OR
3. An equivalent combination of training and experience as defined by the limits of (1) and (2) above.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT FOR APPOINTMENT: Possession of an appropriate New York State Operator's license at the time of appointment and maintenance of such license throughout the tenure of employment in the position.

NOTE: Candidates for appointment in this class will be required to complete mandated training as established by the New York State Department of State.

* Journey-level skilled trades include experience as a carpenter, electrician, mason, plumber, heating, ventilating and air conditioning technician or welder.

REVISED: 6/1/10; 12/30/15; 1/30/19; 3/6/20, 12/7/20; 2/18/21
CIVIL SERVICE CLASSIFICATION: VARIES BY JURISDICTION

Journey level definition - After an employee has undergone sufficient on-the-job training or completed a formal apprenticeship, a promotion to journey level normally occurs. The worker's promotion depends on knowledge and expertise.