

ONONDAGA COUNTY, NEW YORK

*invites your interest in the
position of*

COMMISSIONER OF HEALTH

COMMUNITY

Onondaga County is located in the center of New York State, within 350 miles of all major cities in the Northeast and is conveniently located at the intersection of Interstate 81 and Interstate 90 (New York State Thruway). The County seat is Syracuse and Onondaga County is part of the Syracuse, New York Metropolitan Statistical Area. The County covers 806 square miles, of which 780 square miles is land and 26 square miles is water. Onondaga Lake is bordered by many of the larger communities in the county. The County offers amazing scenery, wonderful recreational opportunities and a quality of life that is hard to match. It is routinely recognized for its livability and inviting economic climate and is home to approximately 470,000 permanent residents.

The Central New York region houses the third largest concentration of colleges and universities in the nation. Syracuse University is one of the nation's most highly regarded private colleges, offering a diverse portfolio of undergraduate and graduate degrees to its more than 18,000 students. Syracuse University's Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs and Newhouse School of Communications are consistently ranked as the country's best schools of public administration and journalism, respectively. Also located within Onondaga County are LeMoyne College, a Jesuit-run liberal arts college; the State University of New York's Upstate Medical University, the largest medical school in upstate New York; and the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry. In addition, more than 6,500 students attend Onondaga Community College, a two-year college that is part of the State University of New York system.

Onondaga County's quality of life and its economy are enhanced by a high quality, comprehensive health care system that serves a 15 county region and include three acute care hospitals, a number of long termed skilled nursing facilities, outpatient centers serving all sectors of the county, renowned teaching facilities, including Upstate University Health System, two hospital-based nursing schools, and several residency programs. Five of the County's largest employers are in the health care sector.

Of course, when you work here, you will want to live here. Housing prices are reasonable. The average home costs about \$130,000 and an exceptional home can be purchased for \$250,000 to \$275,000. The County is recognized as the 4th best place in the United States to raise a family: the schools are among the best in the state, people are friendly and helpful, and crime is low. Its residents embrace the area's past, while having a sense of urgency about moving into the future.

Learn more by visiting the official site of Onondaga County, New York

www.ongov.net

THE ONONDAGA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT AND ORGANIZATION

The Onondaga County Department of Health was established in 1985 by amendment to the Onondaga County Charter by the Onondaga County Board of Supervisors. The Charter amendment provides that the Department of Health will be headed by a Commissioner of Health who shall be appointed by the County Executive subject to confirmation by the County Legislature. The Commissioner of Health shall serve for a term of four years; however, the initial appointment shall be for the balance of the present term which expires on December 31, 2017. The County Charter also provides for a Health Advisory Board within the Department of Health, the members of which shall be appointed by the County Executive.

The Department of Health has an annual budget of nearly \$80 million, approximately 300 employees and consists of the following departments/divisions:

- Center for Forensic Sciences
- Disease Control
- Health Promotion and Disease Prevention
- Surveillance and Statistics
- Maternal and Child Health
- Environmental Health

THE POSITION AND THE IDEAL CANDIDATE

Onondaga County (Syracuse), New York offers an outstanding opportunity to make a difference in a progressive county and to enjoy a superior quality of life. The Commissioner of Health reports to the Deputy County Executive for Human Services and performs full supervisory responsibilities for the Department of Health's management team and staff. Onondaga County is seeking a Commissioner of Health with a strong background in organizational evaluation and design, including change management, process management and services integration.

The County is looking for someone who will represent the County, maintain an open door policy, enjoy community involvement and will become well known in the community. The successful candidate will have a reputation of being a strong team player, be a leader who is inspirational, has a good sense of humor, out-going and a sincere commitment to diversity. He/she will have a high degree of integrity and honesty while being an excellent communicator that listens as well as speaks. The County and County Executive expect the Commissioner of Health to keep them, all of them, equally informed with unfiltered information. The ideal candidate will understand local and County government, be politically astute, yet not politically involved.

RESIDENCY

The Commissioner of Health will be required to live within Onondaga County.

QUALIFICATIONS, EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE

- A. The Commissioner of Health shall be a physician who is currently registered to practice medicine in New York State and possesses two years of experience in administrative practice that demonstrates that the candidate possesses the knowledge and skills to administer public health programs including workforce and budget management, effective communications, effective establishment and implementation of policy or business goals, and compliance with legal requirements and:
1. Certification by the American Board of Preventive Medicine, or
 2. A Master's Degree in Public Health from a regionally accredited or New York State-registered college or university that demonstrates the core competencies of a masters in public health (Biostatistics, Environmental Health Sciences, Epidemiology, Health Policy and Management, and Social and Behavior Sciences) or a masters degree in a related field from a regionally accredited New York State-registered college or university.
- B. The appointment to the position of Commissioner of Health must be approved by the State Commissioner of Health.

COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS

While the salary range for this position is \$130,516 to \$173,021 annually, the starting salary is not expected to exceed \$137,030 annually; however, the County is committed to a starting salary that will be market competitive, depending on the experience and qualifications of the selected individual. In addition, the County expects to provide an excellent fringe benefit package to the successful candidate. Reasonable relocation expenses may be considered for the successful candidate.

HOW TO APPLY

For additional information on this outstanding opportunity, please contact W. D. Higginbotham, Jr., Senior Vice President, The Mercer Group, Inc. at 727-214-8673, WDHiggin@mercergroupinc.com

A letter of interest and resume should be sent electronically by the close of business, July 11, 2014 to:

**W. D. Higginbotham, Jr.
Senior Vice President
The Mercer Group, Inc.
Email - WDHiggin@mercergroupinc.com**

Resumes are subject to the provisions of New York Public Records Statutes

Onondaga County, New York is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Onondaga County, does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, creed, sex, age, marital status, national origin, political ideas, or disability in employment or in the provision of services.

The Mercer Group, Inc.

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