



Chief Medical Examiner-Forensic Pathologist
Department of Health
Salary: \$210,000 - \$240,000

This is a managerial, professional and administrative position in the non-competitive class which is responsible for planning and administering the medical-legal activities and supervising the operation of the Dutchess County Medical Examiner's Office. This is specialized work which investigates causes of death in suspect cases, i.e., homicides, suicides, medical misadventures, disease of public health significance, persons in public health institutions or individuals unattended by a physician. The Medical Examiner shall have the authority to the extent required for an investigation and to remove and transport the body upon taking charge of it, notwithstanding any general, special, or local law. The work involves cooperation with other medical personnel in the performance of autopsies, post mortems, pathological, and other examinations for all violent, suspicious, and unexpected deaths. Work is performed according to various sections of the County law and other applicable sections of New York State Public Health Law and local laws. Work is performed under the general direction of the County Executive. Supervision is exercised over investigative, support and other subordinate staff. Evening work and other than normal work schedules can be expected in this position, as the incumbent is on call to cover any emergency, including bioterrorism.

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:

Assumes the authority to investigate every death occurring within Dutchess County or a death which appears to be suspicious, i.e., violent in nature; one caused by unlawful or criminal action or by negligence, or one that is unattended or uncertifiable by a physician; performs and/or supervises the performance of autopsies when necessary to establish cause of death, gross and histologic examinations of surgical specimens, and microscopic examinations, and evaluates all data and prepares reports of findings; visits or supervises visitation of the death scene, conducts investigations and prepares related reports; completes and issues death certificates; files and maintains full records of all investigations in accordance with the methods and forms prescribed by all governing medical and legal regulations; delivers all pertinent records to the District Attorney whenever investigation indicates that a crime may have been committed; testifies in court and at inquests and may subpoena and examine witnesses under oath; advises, consults with, and provides assistance to government officials, other medical examiners, coroners, physicians, laboratories, etc., relative to tests, examinations, and analysis of the body of the deceased, or to matters related to the investigation; manages and directs the operation of the medical examiner program, ensuring such activities are in support of desired goals and obligations and modifying programs as necessary; participates in training on changes in law, investigation techniques, criminal forensics, etc; maintains public relations through public and press contacts, speeches, conferences and participation in professional and community organizations in liaison with the Office of the Medical Examiner.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

Possession of a valid license and current registration to practice medicine issued by the New York State Education Department and certification by the American Board of Forensic Pathology plus two years of experience as a forensic pathologist.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT:

Possession of a valid Driver License to operate a motor vehicle in New York State at time of appointment and to maintain the position.

FINGERPRINTING: A fingerprint supported background investigation is required before an appointment is made to some positions. Pursuant to New York State Executive Law, the Division of Criminal Justice Services requires that a fee accompany each such request for a search. It is due once a job offer is made and accepted by the applicant.

For immediate consideration, submit an application on or before 10/19/2025.

Apply online at www.dutchessny.gov/jobs,

OR

Download an application from www.dutchessny.gov/jobs,

and mail it to the Dutchess County Department of Human Resources, 22 Market Street,
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

An EEO/AA Employer

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