

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING PROFESSIONAL

DEFINITION

Under general supervision, provide a variety of public health nursing clinics and services; to provide, educational and health counseling services in connection with the control and prevention of disease and adverse health conditions; and to do related work as required.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS

This is contract position in the Public Health Nurse class series. Assignments are performed under guidance and supervision. As experience is gained, incumbents work with greater independence.

REPORTS TO

Public Health Director or designee

CLASSIFICATIONS DIRECTLY SUPERVISED

None

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES

Duties may include but are not limited to the following:

Completes Public Health Nurse assignments and services; conducts patient assessment, screening, education, and linkage to care;; ; assists with the operations of clinics and satellite immunization sites assessing and providing immunizations; serves as a patient advocate to assist patients with attaining optimal health care; coordinates health care between patients and care providers; performs case management techniques and methods; screens for contacts to tuberculosis by giving and reading TB skin tests and education; work with community groups on local health issues;; makes home visits; keeps records and prepares reports; maintains confidentiality,

TYPICAL PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS

Sit for extended periods; frequently stand and walk; normal manual dexterity and eye-hand coordination; lift and move object weighing up to 25 pounds; corrected hearing and vision to normal range; verbal communication; use of audio-visual equipment; use of office equipment including computers, telephones, calculators, copiers, and FAX.

TYPICAL WORKING CONDITIONS

Work is usually performed in an office or clinic environment or in private home setting; exposure to communicable diseases and bio-hazardous waste; frequent contact with staff and the public. Incumbents may be required to drive in remote areas of the County in all weather conditions.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS

Knowledge of:

- Principles, methods, and procedures of general nursing and public health nursing
- Public health issues and problems
- Causes, means of transmission, and methods of control of communicable diseases
- Means of promoting child and maternal health and public health programs
- Sociological and cultural problems involved in public health nursing
- Principles of public health education

Ability and willingness to:

- Learn to educate and work with patients and their families
- Communicate effectively orally and in writing
- Learn community resources and demography
- Follow oral and written instructions
- Apply Universal Health Care Precautions
- Assess the physical conditions of patients
- Make presentations to local community groups and health care providers
- Maintain confidentiality
- Coordinate assigned activities with community organizations and other government agencies
- Interview patients and families to gather medical history

- Determine appropriate resources for clients and make referral to those agencies
- Work responsibly with medical providers
- Effectively represent the Health Department
- Establish and maintain cooperative working relationships
- Use computers

Training and Experience:

Any combination of training and experience which would provide the required knowledge and abilities is qualifying. A typical way to obtain the required knowledge and abilities might be:

Bachelors Degree in Nursing or Health Sciences is required.

One (1) year experience as a Registered Nurse, preferably in a public health or clinical setting is highly desirable.

Special Requirements:

- Possession of a valid California Driver's License.
- Possession of an active Registered Nurse (RN) license through the California Board of Registered Nursing.
- Typically, incumbents have one year from the date of appointment to this class to obtain a valid Public Health Nurse certificate through the California Board of Registered Nursing.