

REGISTERED NURSE I-BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

DEFINITION

Under general supervision, to assist with coordination and participate in a variety of county publicly funded health services; to perform activities related to implementation of various health programs; to interview, educate, counsel, and refer clients regarding a variety of health conditions; and to do related work.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS

Incumbents in the Registered Nurse class series do not have the necessary education, experience, or license requirements to qualify as a Public Health Nurse. Incumbents assist with the planning and conduct of nursing assessments, direct patient care, home visits, and health education. Incumbents at the Registered Nurse I level are performing many assignments in training and learning capacity. They work under closer supervision than Registered Nurse II's. When the requisite background and experience have been obtained an incumbent may be promoted to Registered Nurse II.

REPORTS TO

Behavioral Health Unit Supervisor – Nursing, Psychiatrist/Medical Director, Deputy Director, or Behavioral Health Director

CLASSIFICATIONS DIRECTLY SUPERVISED

None.

REGISTERED NURSE I – 2

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS

- Assist with planning and organizing clinical activities.
- Assists with the operation of clinics and satellite immunization sites, performing immunizations.
- Performs vaccinations.
- Performs, reads, and evaluates skin tests.
- Interviews and elicits medical history from clients.
- Performs pregnancy testing.
- Assists with screening of patients for special medical assistance programs.
- Evaluates patients on the basis of history and tests, making appropriate referrals to medical and community resources.
- Visits physicians' offices to follow up on clients and concerns.
- Performs confidential HIV counseling.
- Works with community agencies to promote wellness.
- Performs activities such as dipstick urine tests, drawing of blood, and blood pressure screening, and giving injections.
- Documents all activities in patients' charts; prepares a variety of reports.
- May teach health education classes as assigned.
- Prepares reports.

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 office equipment including computers, telephones, calculators, copiers, and FAX.

TYPICAL WORKING CONDITIONS

Work is usually performed in an office or clinic environment; exposure to communicable diseases continuous contact with staff and the public.

REGISTERED NURSE I – 3

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS

Knowledge of:

- Principles, methods, and procedures of general nursing and public health nursing.
- Causes, means of transmission, and methods of controlling communicable diseases.
- Disease processes and the mechanisms to prevent and control them.
- Health problems and requirements of infant, children, adolescent, and elderly clients.
- State laws relating to reporting Child/Adult abuse.

Ability to:

- Communicate effectively orally and in writing.
- Follow oral and written instructions.
- Assess the physical condition of patients.
- Maintain confidentiality of material.
- Interview patients and families to gather medical history.
- Counsel clients and make referrals to community resources.
- Draw blood samples for laboratory testing.
- Administer immunizations.
- Work responsibly with physicians and other members of the medical team.
- Effectively represent the Department in contacts with the public, community organizations, and other government agencies.
- Establish and maintain cooperative working relationships with patients and others.

TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE

Required qualifications for this position:

One (1) year of general nursing experience,

AND

Completion of nursing studies and curriculum sufficient to obtain requisite licenses from the State of California.

REGISTERED NURSE I – 4

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Possession of a valid license as a Registered Nurse issued by the California State Board of Registered Nursing.

Must possess a valid driver's license at time of application and a valid California Driver's License by the time of appointment. The valid California Driver's License must be maintained throughout employment.

All County of Plumas employees are designated Disaster Service Workers through state law (California Government Code Section 3100-3109). Employment with Plumas County requires the affirmation of a loyalty oath to this effect. Employees are required to complete all Disaster Service Work related training as assigned, and to return to work as ordered in the event of an emergency.