

Public Health Nurse I

Definition

Under supervision, to apply systems--levels-level thinking from knowledge of nursing, social, and public health sciences to provide public health nursing services in diverse settings, including not limited the to homes, or public health clinics, hospitals, schools, agencies, and community settings as required by the in-an assigned planning-program area.

Distinguishing Characteristics

This-The Public Health Nurse I classification is the entry level in the Public Health Nurse classification series. Public Health Nursing is a specialty practice within nursing and public health. Incumbents receive close supervision and on-the-job training and instruction but are expected to develop professional nursing skills and techniques to improve population health by emphasizing prevention and attending to multiple determinants of health from an ecological perspective, acknowledging the complexity of public health problems and the contextual nature of health, including cultural, environmental, historical, physical, and social factors as a result of through experience and training.

The Public Health Nurse I classification is distinguished from the Public Health Nurse II classification in that the Public Health Nurse I is the entry-level classification with no or limited public health nursing experience, while the Public Health Nurse II is experienced, has the skills, knowledge, and ability to assess needs, opportunities, and inequities of individuals, families, and populations and translate this assessment into actions at all levels that impact health, and is-assigned responsibilities for-are -more complex and varied-ease-load. Public Health Nurse IIs receive less direct supervision, work with more independence, and are expected to be knowledgeable of the community and its resources.

Typical Tasks

The following are the duties performed by employees in this classification. However, employees may perform other related duties at an equivalent level. Each individual in the classification does not necessarily perform all duties listed.

- Provides nursing services to individuals in-homes by assessing, diagnosing, planning for, implementing, and evaluating teaching, and demonstrating appropriate nursing care;
- Assists individuals and families in carrying-out following physician-medical provider recommendations-made by the physician;
- Recognizes attitudes and cultural patterns that are detrimental to health and guides families towards desirable changes through a trauma--informed lens;
- Teaches and counsels individuals, families, and groups regarding specific diseases, health conditions, and health maintenance;
- Participates in various clinics by interviewing and counseling patientsclients;

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- Assists individuals and families to ~~recognize-identify~~ their ~~needs problems~~ and ~~establish their goals~~ and refers them to appropriate community agencies and clinics for specialized services;
- Coordinates care of ~~patients-clients~~ with other public and private agencies;
- Collects specimens from ~~patientsclients~~; performs medical tests and reports ~~on~~ test results, and administers injections and oral medications;
- Performs on-going and follow-up evaluation to determine effectiveness of ~~treatmentnursing care~~ plan;
- Interprets ~~physicians'-medical providers'~~ orders and assists families in ~~carrying out following~~ these orders;
- Utilizes health literacy concepts to improve the public's understanding of their health conditions, treatments, and self-care practices;
- Facilitates informed decision making and eEncourages families to ~~recognize-identify~~ the need for appropriate medical, psychiatric, hospital, or other care, as necessary;
- Performs defined technical/skilled nursing tasks;
- Recognizes the current Essential Public Health Services;
- Maintains documentation and Pprepares ~~reports-and-maintains~~ necessary ~~recordsdocumentationreports~~;
- May ~~supervise-provide~~ guidance and direction ~~lead-supervision-to support subordinate~~ personnelstaff;
- Attends appropriate staff meetings and in-service training sessions;
- May pursue appropriate job related educational courses;
- May be assigned as a Disaster Service Worker (DSW)-, as required;*

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- Performs other related work, as required.

Employment Standards

Sufficient education, training, and experience to demonstrate the ability to perform the above tasks, plus the possession and direct application of the following knowledge and abilities:

Graduation from an accredited college or university with

Training and Experience Note:- The required knowledge and abilities are attained through possession of a Bachelor's degree-Degree, or higher, in Nursing. Possession of a Certificate as a Public Health Nurse issued by the State of California.

Special Requirements

- Possess and maintain a valid License as a Registered Nurse issued by the State of California for the duration of employment in this classification.
- Possession and maintain of a valid Certificate as a Public Health Nurse issued by the State of California for the duration of employment in this classification.
- Possession of a current Basic Life Support (BLS) Certificate.
- Ability to travel to alternate locations in the course of work. If driving, possession of a valid California driver's license prior to appointment and the ability to qualify for and maintain a County driver authorization.
- *As a condition of employment, pursuant to California Government Code Sections 3100-3109 and Local Ordinance, all County of Santa Clara employees are designated Disaster Service Workers (DSWs), including extra help. A DSW is required to complete all assigned DSW-related training, and in the event of an emergency, return to work as ordered.
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Possession of a valid California driver's license.

Knowledge of:

- Principles, practices, and methods of public health nursing;
- Stages of nursing process and principles of trauma-informed care;
- Principles of case finding and case management in a variety of settings;
- Causes, transmission, prevention, and control of, and care required of for communicable disease(s);
- Community resources and health agencies related to public health nursing;
- Uses and effects of medicines;

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- English usage, style, grammar, punctuation, and spelling;
- Interviewing techniques;
- Common computer technology, systems and applications, and electronic medical record systems.

Ability to:

- Plan, organize, and ~~carry out~~ deliver public health nursing ~~activities-services~~ in a district;
- Work effectively with ~~patients~~ clients and families to assist them ~~in~~ with satisfactory resolution of health problems;
- Develop and maintain effective public relations with community organizations;
- Assess and ~~Analyze-analyze~~ situations accurately and take appropriate action when working in the field alone and entering homes for client visits;
- Maintain sensitivity to the needs of people from a variety of cultural, environmental, and social backgrounds; to cultural competency principles that are inclusive and representative of our community;
- Collect specimens; and administer injections and medications;
- Provide treatment recommendations based on current clinical guidelines and best practices;
- Prepare accurate reports and documentation;
- Provide guidance and direction to ~~and train others~~ support staff;
- Establish and maintain effective working relationships with those contacted in the course of work, at all levels, including colleagues, the public, and representatives of other agencies;
- ~~Speak and write effectively~~ Communicate effectively in English, both orally and in writing, with people of diverse backgrounds and cultures.

Physical Requirements

The physical requirements may include:

- Lift objects weighing up to 15 pounds, squat, bend, and climb stairs;
- Ability to ~~Occasionally~~ work alternate shifts and/or weekends.

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Revised -- ~~01/09/2023~~06/12/2023 - JT

Revised - 3/1/1972

Established - 7/17/1967