



CLASSIFICATION NO. 717

Revised: 6/79, 8/89, 8/90

Revised Title: 12/17

FLSA: Exempt

EEO: 2

COMMUNITY HEALTH NURSE

CLASS CHARACTERISTICS

Under general direction, to perform a variety of tasks relating to community and public health nursing services in the home, clinics, schools, and other social service agencies and institutions; to participate in public health agency or other social service program activities as a professional member of a total health care team providing services in the community; and to do other work as required.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS

Within the Department of Health, Housing and Human Services, the Community Health Nurse series performs a wide variety of nursing assignments which require independent judgment and skillful application of accepted, current nursing techniques and the implementation of program activities according to accepted public health policies and standards. The community health nursing services and programs are designed to promote good hygiene and health, to teach preventative and rehabilitative care and techniques to patients, and to provide direct patient care and treatment when necessary.

Community Health Nurse is the journey-level classification in the Community Health Nurse series. Incumbents provide the full range of general, professional nursing duties under the direction of a clinic/program manager or physician. Assignments and duties may be of a general nature in a broad program or clinical area or of a specific scope. Assignments involve complex and difficult processes and diagnoses and require independent judgment and application of skills with little or no supervision. Community Health Nurse differs from Community Health Nurse, Senior due to the latter classification's program coordination and lead work responsibilities.

TYPICAL TASKS

Duties may include but are not limited to the following:

1. Provides direct nursing services to patients; assists individuals and families in carrying out recommendations made by the physician, and in making necessary adjustments in order that the treatment regime can be followed; detects new and early cases of physical and emotional illness; assists individuals and families to recognize their problems and refers them to the appropriate resources.
2. Promotes, teaches and demonstrates nursing care to families, individuals, and community groups; provides instruction and information regarding specific diseases or health conditions, as well as health maintenance, and rehabilitation.

3. Plans and exchanges information with other health workers for effective care of patients; cooperates with other agencies in planning for a patient's continuity of care in hospitals, clinics, schools, industries, homes, and other relevant agencies.
4. Participates in epidemiologic investigations in the home, school, or community.
5. Participates in the planning and operation of clinics by interviewing and counseling patients, performing diagnostic tests, giving prescribed treatment, recording data, making necessary referrals, instructing other nursing personnel and volunteers in their assignments.
6. May organize, lead, or participate in discussion groups with clients of programs or the agency; compiles material for presentation; prepares teaching aids; performs demonstrations; may assist in the orientation of new personnel.
7. May participate with local community groups in the development and planning for health services.
8. Compiles and uses records, reports, and statistical information for appraisal and planning of the assigned duties.

REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS

Thorough knowledge of: Principles, methods, and procedures of nursing as applied to health practice; preventative medicine and sanitation; community health aspects of nursing programs including continuity of patient care, nursing services in school health programs, and nursing care in the home, including teaching and preventive aspects; causes, treatment, prevention and/or early detection of communicable diseases, chronic diseases, handicapping conditions, mental illness and other disabling conditions; sociological, psychological, and physical problems involved in public health nursing; principles of mental health.

Working knowledge of: Community resources available for assistance in public health programs and other pertinent social services programs; current trends and concepts relative to professional nursing practice; office equipment, including personal computers and software programs.

Skill to: Under general direction implement nursing activities in an assigned district, program, or clinic; work effectively with individuals and families to assist them in satisfactory solution of health problems; analyze situations accurately and take effective action; establish and maintain effective working relationships with other departments, agencies, and the general public; communicate effectively, both orally and in writing, including preparation of clear and concise records and reports; recognize social problems which affect physical and mental health, and assist in securing adjustments or solutions; provide high quality nursing care; plan and coordinate the activities of other individuals who will provide care in the absence of the Community Health Nurse; instruct in the prevention of diseases, promotion of health and nursing care of an ill or injured person; operate computer software and other office equipment.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Minimum qualifications are used as a guide for establishing the minimum experience, education, licensure, and/or certifications required for employment in the classification. The following minimum qualifications are established for this classification. Additional minimum qualifications

and special conditions may apply to a specific position within this classification and will be stated on the job announcement.

Experience: None required.

Licenses/Certifications:

The following licensure/certifications are required at the time of hire.

- License to practice as a registered professional nurse in the State of Oregon.
- Basic Life Support (BLS) certificate.

PRE-EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENTS

Must successfully pass a criminal history check which may include national or state fingerprint records check.

Must pass a pre-employment drug test.

Driving may be necessary for County business. For position(s) with occasional/incidental driving, incumbents must possess a valid driver's license. Accommodation requests for an acceptable alternative method of transportation will be reviewed on an individual basis in compliance with State and Federal legislation. For position(s) with regular driving, incumbent(s) must also possess and maintain an acceptable driving record throughout the course of employment.

Edited: 11/17