

## PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: The duties of this class are performed by a nurse who plans, provides, directs, and evaluates nursing care in a variety of settings and offers instruction and guidance in health practices for individuals and families. This class differs from that of Registered Nurse (Community Health Services) by virtue of the fact an incumbent of this class must possess a baccalaureate degree in nursing pursuant to the State Sanitary Code. The work is performed under the general supervision of a Supervising Public Health Nurse. General supervision may be exercised over Health Care Aides and staff assigned to carry out health care plans. A Public Health Nurse does related work as required.

### TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:

- Plans a program of nursing care and treatment on a patient-by-patient basis;
- Evaluates the conduct of plans of nursing care which are to be carried out;
- Provides nursing services in homes, clinics, schools, and other community facilities;
- Participates in the conduct of surveys, studies, and investigations related to health matters;
- Coordinates plans for services with nutritionists, social workers, physical therapists, physicians, and other professional workers concerned with individual and family health care;
- Interviews and obtains histories in order to assess client needs for clinic services;
- May be responsible for the continued supervision of mental health patients in a community setting;
- Prepares reports and maintains records relating to patients and health care planning;
- May give skilled nursing care and prescribed treatments to patients;
- Counsels and guides individuals and families toward self-help in recognition and solution of physical, emotional, and environmental health problems;
- May assist in the evaluation of agency programs and policies;
- May work on a schedule to insure emergency and weekend nursing care.

FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGES, SKILLS, ABILITIES, AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS: Thorough knowledge of the principles and methods of public health nursing; good knowledge of the epidemiological approach to the prevention and control of disease; good knowledge of the administrative organization of public health and other social services within the community; good knowledge and understanding of the behavior of individuals throughout the normal life span; skill in the application of nursing techniques; ability to instruct patients and staff in public health practices; ability to establish and maintain effective relationships with patients of various educational, economic, and cultural backgrounds; ability to operate a motor vehicle when such is required; tact; good judgement; emotional stability, initiative, and resourcefulness; physical condition commensurate with the demands of the position.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State registered four year college or university with a Bachelor's Degree in Nursing and possession of a license and current registration to practice as a Registered Professional Nurse in New York State.

*SPECIAL REQUIREMENT FOR APPOINTMENT*: Possession of a New York State Driver's License.

(Minimum qualifications as required by the Sanitary Code, Part 11.41, August 1979)

## CATTARAUGUS COUNTY CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

Revised: 10/23/90

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