

Classification Specification

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE I

DEFINITION

Under immediate supervision, perform professional nursing services, instruction, and health counseling to individuals, families or groups in homes, clinics and community settings for the purpose of prevention and control of diseases and the promotion of health, and to do other work as required.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS

This is the entry level class in the Public Health Nurse career series. Incumbents perform more routine and less complex nursing duties as part of an orientation and on the job training assignment, initiating and carrying out special programs within an assigned caseload or geographical area under limited supervision.

Positions in this class are distinguished from positions in the class of Staff Nurse by the environment in which the work is performed (Staff Nurses typically work in primary care facilities), by the somewhat independent nature of the practice, and by the instructional, educational emphasis of their work and by the educational training in public health.

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES

1. Plans, organizes and provides nursing services within an assigned specialty, clinic or geographical area.
2. Provides case finding, health counseling and instruction and epidemiological investigation in connection with the prevention and control of disease and the promotion of health.
3. Applies the nursing process of assessment, planning, intervention and evaluation.
4. Provides care and treatment for health problems; carries out physicians orders; administers injections and oral medications applied in the home, clinic or group situation.
5. Refers clients to appropriate resources, agencies and clinics for further evaluation and treatment.
6. Evaluates individual and family situations for problems detrimental to good health; conducts health appraisals and screening.
7. Coordinates care of individuals and families with public and private agencies; confers with physicians, nursing staff, other agencies and community members.
8. Determines special needs of an assigned area; recommends and implements projects to address those needs; participates with community groups in identifying and developing needed public health services.

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- 9. Keeps records, prepares reports, compiles statistical information.

QUALIFICATIONS

Pursuant to Title 17 of the California Administrative Code, possession of a license in active status, to practice as a registered nurse in California and possession of a Public Health Nursing Certificate.

Some knowledge of:

- 1. Principles, methods and practices of public health nursing.
- 2. Community aspects of nursing programs including provisions for continuity of patient care, nursing services in health programs and nursing care in the home.

Skill to:

- 1. Analyze information and draw logical conclusions.
- 2. Speak effectively to address groups and individuals.
- 3. Write to prepare reports and records.
- 4. Follow oral and written instructions.
- 5. Develop and maintain cooperative working relationships with those contacted in the course of work.
- 6. Use common medical instructions.
- 7. Manage an assigned caseload.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Possession of a valid California Class 3 driver’s license is required by date of hire.

CLASS HISTORY

Class Code:	52E21	Bargaining Unit:	H
Established:	April 2000	EEO Class:	P
		Overtime Status:	N

Approved

Date