

COUNTY OF SOLANO

CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST (ENTRY)

DEFINITION

Under direction, provides or assists in providing psychological evaluation and psychotherapy services to emotionally disturbed and mentally ill clients and their families; provides consultation to staff and community agencies; performs related duties as required.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS

This class provides entry into the Clinical Psychologist series. Incumbents are assigned diagnostic and psychotherapeutic services work which will broaden and deepen their professional experience and are expected to acquire greater independence, apply theoretical knowledge and demonstrate competency required for promotion to Clinical Psychologist. This class is distinguished from the Clinical Psychologist in that the latter is the fully qualified professional level in which incumbents work more independently.

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES

Duties may include but are not limited to the following:

1. Performs individual, group and family counseling and psychotherapy using a variety of treatment modalities to assist clients in exploring and gaining insight into their personality/emotional difficulty and helping them resolve their conflicts.
2. Selects and administers psychological tests and other diagnostic procedures; analyzes and interprets tests and observations of patterns of behavior.
3. Conducts clinical interviews with clients and relatives to elicit information regarding psychologically relevant material.
4. Prepares interpretive reports including diagnosis, prognosis, and other findings relevant to the disposition or treatment of the client (e.g., court reports, URC reports); testifies in court as needed; confers with staff and other departments in case conferences and in-service training sessions; addresses professional and lay groups regarding mental health related issues.

QUALIFICATION GUIDELINES

EDUCATION AND/OR EXPERIENCE

No experience required, however, applicants must demonstrate possession of and competency in requisite knowledge and abilities.

KNOWLEDGE/ABILITIES

Thorough knowledge of the theories, principles and practices of clinical and abnormal psychology in the treatment of the mentally ill, emotionally disturbed and/or developmentally disabled persons; psychological treatment modalities; psychological testing devices and methods; family and group dynamics; laws, rules and regulations governing mental health treatment.

Ability to apply the principles and practices of behavioral observation, psychological testing, scoring and interpretation; perform consultation, counseling and group/individual psychotherapy; formulate psychological diagnosis and treatment plans; communicate effectively with people of diverse socio-economic backgrounds and temperaments; communicate effectively both verbally and in writing; maintain effective working relationships with professional and lay persons; address various professional and public groups; maintain confidentiality of information; comply with laws, regulations and professional practices governing mental health program services and operations; determine the appropriate course of action in emergency or stressful situations; maintain accurate records and document actions taken.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Candidates are expected to gain qualifying experience for licensure. Incumbents of this class must possess a Ph.D. in Psychology and obtain a valid Clinical Psychologist license issued by the State Board of Medical Quality Assurance within two years from the date of appointment.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS (Continued)

Possession of a Clinical Psychologist license issued by the State Board of Medical Quality Assurance may be required; however, waivers may be granted in accordance with Section 5600 et. seq. of the California Welfare and Institutions Code.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Independent travel will be required.

Selectees for employment must as a condition of employment sign a statement agreeing to comply with Section 11166 of the California Penal Code relating to child abuse reporting.

Incumbents of this class should demonstrate necessary knowledge and abilities to be promoted to Clinical Psychologist within 60 months of appointment.

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