

DESCRIPTION: Under immediate supervision, learns to provide basic care toward the recovery and rehabilitation of patients with mental illness or other disability at a 24-hour secure state facility/ward by developing skills through a formal training program; develops skills necessary through training to advance to the Psychiatric Technician II level; performs related work as assigned.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS: (A position is assigned to this class based on the scope and level of work performed as outlined below.)

This is the first classification level of three in the Psychiatric Technician class series. This class is utilized as a training class whereby attendance and successful completion of formal classroom instruction is required. Duties assigned are routine and are performed under close direction and reviewed by higher level Psychiatric Technician staff and/or nursing/medical professionals. The Psychiatric Technician II class is the full performance level where incumbents have completed required training courses. The Psychiatric Specialist class performs lead worker duties for others allocated to lower levels of this class series. Incumbents in the Mental Health Security class series perform custody and monitoring activities for patients who require additional security enforcements.

EXAMPLES OF WORK: (A position may not be assigned all the duties listed, nor do these examples include all the duties that may be assigned.)

Attends classes and participates in on-the-job training programs to gain knowledge and skills required to advance to the Psychiatric Technician II class.

Continues to increase understanding by self-study and by seeking guidance from professional staff.

Aids in planning care for and assists in monitoring the activities of patients.

Works as a trainee with facility/ward staff who experience maladaptive behavior of patients and use judgment in adapting to the needs of the patients within the limits of safety.

Learns to observe, evaluate, document and report symptoms, behavior and progress of patients; includes presenting and teaching behavior alternatives to patients.

Responds to emergency or crisis situations ensuring the safety and security of staff and patients is maintained.

Assists in routine nursing care and personal care of patients including feeding, bathing, dressing, toileting and other personal hygiene activities.

Maintains safety and sanitary environments by performing laundry and housekeeping duties.

Assists in escorting and transporting patients to designated areas and activities.

Lifts and repositions individuals.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES REQUIRED: (These are needed to perform the work assigned.)

Knowledge of: techniques of providing basic care to physically and/or mentally ill patients; human behavior and performance; principles and methods for working with individuals and groups.

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Skill in: listening and understanding; communicating to relay information to agency management, staff, the general public and patients.

Ability to: learn and follow all facility/ward instructions; prepare routine reports; make decisions and act quickly in situations involving patient care or safety; lift, push, pull or bend to assist clients in meeting their needs and maintaining safety.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: (Applicants will be screened for possession of these qualifications. Applicants who need accommodation in the selection process should request this in advance.)

No specific education or experience is required for this class.

SPECIAL NOTES:

Positions in this class may require an employee to possess a valid driver's license and provide a passenger vehicle with adequate liability insurance, or the ability to provide independent authorized transportation in order to perform work-related travel.

State agencies are responsible to evaluate each of their positions to determine their individual overtime eligibility status as required by the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA).