

DESCRIPTION: Under general supervision, assists in providing specialized care toward the recovery and rehabilitation of patients with mental illness or other disability under the direction of nursing and medical staff at a 24-hour secure state facility/ward; may be assigned to work on specialized projects or programs; 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 second classification level of three within the Psychiatric Technician class series. This is the full performance level where incumbents perform the full range of care and monitoring for patients with mental illness or other disability in a 24-hour secure state facility/ward. Work is performed under supervision and according to pre-determined instructions and prescribed standards and procedures. The Psychiatric Technician I class is the trainee level whereby mandatory and successful completion of training programs must be completed for entry to higher levels within the series. The Psychiatric Specialist class serves as a lead worker over 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.)

Participates in continual in-service training programs.

Assists in planning individualized care for patients and assists in monitoring patient activities.

Observes, evaluates, reviews, documents and reports patient behavior and problems to assigned supervision.

Presents and teaches to patients alternatives to inappropriate behaviors.

Assists assigned supervisor in evaluating patient needs and progress for interdisciplinary staff conferences; provides input into treatment plans.

Responds to emergency or crisis situations and may intervene in verbal disputes and/or provide physical intervention that includes restraining individuals.

Performs 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.

Participates in individual counseling and group therapy sessions under the supervision of professional staff.

Makes rounds, reviews patient charts and reports.

Escorts and transports patients safely to designated areas and activities inside or outside the facility.

Lifts and repositions individuals.

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

Knowledge of: techniques of providing rehabilitative care to physically and/or mentally ill patients; human behavior and performance; principles and methods for instructing individuals and groups; facility/ward policies, procedures and instructions.

Skill in: listening and understanding; communicating effectively to relay information to agency management, staff, the general public and patients; teaching others how to do something.

Ability to: work therapeutically with patients; assume monitoring responsibilities of a patient unit; carry out nursing procedures as prescribed; make decisions and act quickly in situations involving patient care or safety; provide leadership to lesser-experienced workers; prepare reports; observe and document patient behavior; lift, push, pull or bend to assist clients in meeting their needs and maintaining safety within the facility/ward.

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

Successful completion of all required in-service training assigned to the Psychiatric Technician I class or completion of a related training program at a technical school.

OR

Post high school coursework/training in psychology, human services or behavioral sciences.

OR

Experience providing direct care services to patients with mental illness or other disability.

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).