

Department: Public Health  
Classification: Competitive  
Grade: Ungraded

SPEC DISK B1  
DOCUMENT 56

### PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE

**DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS:** The work involves responsibility for assessment of health care needs of individual and families, the implementation of nursing care plans and providing nursing care. A Public Health Nurse is also responsible for the re-evaluation of the health care needs of individuals and families and assessments of the effectiveness of the plans of care and intervention which were provided. The work is performed under the supervision of a Supervising Public Health Nurse. A Public Health Nurse may supervise Registered Professional Nurses and staff assigned to carry out the plans of care. The incumbent does related work as required.

*Note: In compliance with OSHA, this position has a potential risk of exposure to bloodborne pathogens (blood/body fluids).*

#### **TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:** (Illustrative only)

Gives nursing care and physician-prescribed treatments to patients in their homes or at clinics;  
Demonstrates nursing care to patients and family members;  
Provides training and supervision for ancillary workers;  
Coordinates plans for service with physicians and other professionals who are providing individual and family health care;  
Provides rehabilitative/restorative care services, preventive care services and supportive care services to terminally ill persons, as well as those with non-terminal, acute and chronic illnesses;  
Counsels and guides individuals and families in recognizing and attempting to resolve or ameliorate physical, emotional and environmental health problems;  
Provides for continuity of patient care by referring patients and families to appropriate agencies or community workers;  
Documents in writing clinical progress notes, service reports, renewal of order requests and other pertinent reports on a timely basis;  
May provide nursing services in clinics and schools;  
May lead a team providing nursing care to a group of patients or families and be responsible for evaluating the effectiveness of team activities;  
Teaches classes, addresses groups, and participates in community planning related to nursing and health;  
Participates in surveys and studies related to nursing and health care;  
Compiles statistical information, maintains records and prepares reports for use in evaluating health care needs, planning health care programs, and evaluating effectiveness of existing health care programs.

#### **FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:**

Thorough knowledge of current public health nursing practices; working knowledge of the administrative organization of community facilities; skill in the application of current nursing procedures and techniques of patient care; ability to plan and coordinate nursing care for individuals, families and groups and to supervise nursing personnel assigned to assist with this care; ability to communicate effectively; ability to establish and maintain cooperative working relationships with others; ability to perform duties in conformance with ANA Code for Professional Nurses; 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 Baccalaureate degree in Nursing and licensure and current registration to practice as a Registered Professional Nurse in New York State.

Revised: 11/13/96  
Reviewed: 06/12/2018