

TITLE:	REGISTERED PROFESSIONAL NURSE
JURISDICTIONAL CLASS:	NON-COMPETITIVE
CIVIL DIVISION:	PUBLIC HEALTH DEPT., MENTAL HEALTH CENTER, DEPT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
ADOPTION:	CSM
REVISED:	CSM 07/27/83, 2/03/83, 12/09/98, 09/12/07; 10/10/07; 11/12/08

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS:

This is a professional nursing position involving responsibility for coordinating individual patient care and for performing nursing services requiring substantial specialized judgment skills. Employees in this class perform professional nursing duties in the care of physically or mentally ill patients in private homes, schools and clinics. Work is performed under the general direction of a higher level position and in accordance with a prescribed individual patient nursing care plan or in accordance with mandated programs. Supervision may be exercised over the work of Licensed Practical Nurses and related auxiliary nursing personnel. 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)

- Assesses patient nursing care needs and prepares, implements, and evaluates the nursing care plan;
- Generates orders and authorizes services;
- Oversees the work of Licensed Practical Nurses and Home Health Aides providing support services to patients on caseload;
- Gives skilled nursing care and prescribed treatments to patients in their homes and clinics and demonstrates nursing care to patients and families;
- Prepares and applies dressings and provides nursing treatment as prescribed by physicians;
- Conducts epidemiological activities associated with limiting and studying communicable diseases and works with patients toward prevention;
- Identifies physical and emotional illness of patients through observation and analysis of records;
- Coordinates plans for care with nutritionists, social workers, physical therapists, physicians, and other professional health workers concerned with individual and family care;
- Counsels and guides individuals and families in the prevention of illness and the attainment of maximum health;
- Prepares and maintains a variety of essential nursing care records and reports;
- Attends in-service training to keep abreast of current nursing techniques and procedures;
- Confers with supervisor and attends staff meetings on patient care issues;
- Instructs patient and family members regarding patient’s diet, health habits, rehabilitation measures, and in-home treatments;
- Sets up and staffs prevention and immunization health clinics including administering vaccines, taking patient history, and conducting screening physicals;
- Compiles and uses records, reports & statistical information for evaluation & planning of the assigned programs;
- May coordinate activities for related grants;
- May participate in disaster activities as trained and assigned;
- Performs other related duties as assigned.

FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGES, SKILLS, ABILITIES, & PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:

Good knowledge of nursing principles & techniques & their relation to medical & surgical practices;
Good knowledge of sanitation, personal hygiene and nutrition as it relates to health care and maintenance;
Working knowledge of pharmacology (drugs and their actions and reactions);
Working knowledge of the prevention and control of infections and diseases;
Skill in the application of nursing techniques & practices;
Ability to complete and maintain a variety of records including clinical records and accurate patient summaries and charts;
Ability to understand & follow technical instructions;
Ability to administer medications and follow safe medication policies;
Ability to practice proper infection control policies and procedures;
Ability to carry out the therapeutic measures prescribed;
Ability to get along well with patients, physicians & others;
Ability to plan & supervise the work of L.P.N.'s and related personnel;
Physical condition commensurate with the demands of the position.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

- (A) Possession of a temporary permit to practice or licensure and current registration as a Registered Professional Nurse in New York State at time of appointment.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT:

Certain assignments made to employees in this class will require reasonable access to transportation to meet field work requirements made in the ordinary course of business in a timely and efficient manner. Operation of county-owned vehicles requires employees to possess a current valid New York State Motor Vehicle operator's license.