

Jurisdictional Class: Competitive
Adopted: May 15, 2008
Revised: June 25, 2010

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE II

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: The work involves responsibility for the planning, development, provision, and evaluation of nursing care and of public health programs designed to prevent disease and improve the health of individuals, families, specific populations, high-risk groups, and/or communities as well as performing professional public health nursing services that include the assessment of health needs and development of a nursing plan of care for individuals or families, instruction and health counseling of individuals/groups in homes, clinics and community settings for the purpose of prevention and control of diseases, promotion of health, and related work. The work also involves assisting supervisor and/or management with program administration, program budget development and monitoring, performing quality improvement initiatives, and monitoring of short-term trends. Public Health Nurse II is part of the series of public health nursing; incumbents perform the full scope of public health nursing duties in addition to advanced level duties with a higher level of autonomy. The Public Health Nurse II promotes coordination and effective case management of patient care services rendered by an interdisciplinary team of workers. A PHN II may act in a lead capacity and can supervise additional subordinate staff for routine tasks including Public Health Nurses, Registered Professional Nurses, Licensed Practical Nurses and unlicensed personnel assigned to carry out the plans of care. Public Health Nurse II differs from Supervising Public Health Nurse who is responsible for supervising, directing, and coordinating public health nursing field, clinic, and program activities, along with the team of personnel associated with these activities. The work is performed under the supervision of a Supervising Public Health Nurse. The incumbent does related work as required.

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES: (Illustrative only)

- Provides nursing care at a primary level through preventive teaching, immunization, health screening, newborn teaching visits, and health guidance visits for high risk or multi-problem families;
- Provides skilled nursing and prescribed treatments to patients in their homes, clinics, schools, and other community settings, and demonstrates nursing care to patients and families;
- Assesses the needs of a population in order to identify sub-populations, families and individuals who would benefit from health promotion/intervention or who are at risk of illness, injury, disability, or premature death;
- Participates in the planning, implementation, and operation of public health programs and projects with independent oversight of portions of these elements;
- Develops with the community a plan for intervention (to meet identified needs) that takes into account available resources and the range of activities that contribute to health and the prevention of illness, injury, disability, and premature death;
- Monitors performance indicators for effect and progress;
- Participates in surveys, studies, and research in the field of public health;
- Participates in mobilizing the community to develop partnerships and alliances to address high-priority community health needs;
- Develops, implements, and evaluates the professional resources and educational programs for orientation, required mandates, and ongoing continuing education and skill development;
- Assumes responsibility for professional growth and contributes to the professional growth of others;
- Works with faculty in overseeing students' clinical and educational experiences at the department;

Public Health Nurse II

Assesses patients from hospital setting for current medical, psychological, and mental health status, family and community support systems, payor source financial status, decision making process, and environmental limitations, and applies home care standards and regulations for safe discharge;

Completes paperwork such as day sheets, OASIS, billing information and documents in records as required for reimbursement of services;

Leads and schedules a team of peers and subordinates providing nursing care and evaluates the effectiveness of team activities;

Participates in training for Incident Command System, emergency response and drills, and responds to community emergencies/disasters as part of the Public Health Response requirements.

FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES & PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:

Thorough knowledge and ability to plan, provide, direct, and evaluate nursing care in a variety of settings with the goal of improved health outcomes;

Thorough knowledge of current public health nursing practices and ability to describe and apply skills of core competencies within the context of the essential public health services;

Ability to plan, develop, provide, and evaluate public health programs designed to prevent disease and improve the health of individuals, families, specific populations, high-risk groups, and/or communities;

Working knowledge of the administrative organization of community facilities;

Ability to plan and coordinate nursing care for individuals, families, and groups, and supervises nursing personnel assigned to assist with this care;

Ability to understand and complete financial billing processes necessary to assist with reimbursement;

Ability to use technology for accurate, efficient, and secure data management and communication;

Ability to communicate effectively orally and in writing;

Ability to establish and maintain cooperative working relationships;

Ability to perform duties in accordance with ANA Code for Professional Nurses and other applicable codes and regulations;

Sensitivity to individual client needs with the ability to approach situations that take into account diversities and cultural differences;

Flexibility;

Sound judgment.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Possession of a Baccalaureate Degree in nursing from a regionally accredited or New York State registered college or university as well as licensure and current registration to practice as a registered professional nurse in New York State and one (1) year of experience in public health nursing.

NOTE: Candidates must complete fifteen (15) hours of continuing education in public health related topics approved by the New York State Department of Health within the first year of employment.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS: 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.