

## **PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE**

**DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS:** An employee in this class assesses the need for, plans, provides, coordinates and evaluates professional nursing care and instruction to clients of the Ulster County Health Department. The work is performed under the general supervision of a Supervising Public Health Nurse. Assignments are received in the form of referrals from physicians, family members, hospitals, the patient or other community agencies. Within each assignment, wide leeway is allowed for the exercise of independent judgment in technical details. Supervision is exercised over the work of Registered Nurses, Home Health Aides and students. Does related work as required.

**TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:** The typical work activities listed below, while providing representative examples of the variety of work assignments in the title, do not describe any individual position. Incumbents may perform some or all of the following, as well as other related activities not described.

Makes preliminary visits to patients' homes and assess nursing needs and need for other services (i.e.: physical therapy, speech therapy, etc.) which may be required;

Provides skilled nursing care and prescribed treatments to patients in their homes and in clinics;

Prepares, periodically updates and monitors implementation of the nursing care plan;

Assigns subordinate nurses and Home Health Aides to patients in order to implement nursing care plan;

Provides guidance, instruction and demonstrations in health principles and nursing procedures to patients and their families so they may be better able to care for themselves;

Establishes liaison and coordinates care with other health and community agencies;

Enlists all community resources that would be helpful to patients and makes the appropriate contacts and referrals;

Plans and directs community clinics;

Attends conferences where the health status and needs of patients are discussed with representatives of other disciplines and with other nursing personnel;

Makes pre-discharged hospital and home visits to plan care and to set up support systems for patients;

Provides training, instruction and demonstrations in public health nursing procedures and techniques to subordinates;

Participates in epidemiological investigations and other studies and surveys as needed;

Addresses groups and teaches classes in public health matters;

Compiles and uses records, reports and statistical information for evaluation and planning of the assigned program;

Keeps abreast of latest developments in the public health nursing field by attending classes and through independent reading and study;

Prepares written reports and correspondence;

May coordinate contact tracing and case investigation.

**FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGES, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL**

**CHARACTERISTICS:** Thorough knowledge of the current principles, practices and techniques of public health nursing; good knowledge of community resources available to patients and 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; ability to train and supervise nursing and auxiliary personnel; ability to establish and maintain cooperative working relationships and function effectively as a member of a treatment team; ability to accept and utilize professional guidance and to follow oral and written directions; ability to prepare reports and correspondence; ability to keep clear and accurate records; ability to perform duties in accordance with the ANA Code for professional nurses; ability to communicate effectively; sound professional judgment; accuracy.

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:** Possession of a Bachelor's Degree in Nursing from a regionally accredited or New York State registered college or university and possession of a license, and current registration, issued by the State of New York to practice as a Registered Professional Nurse.

ULSTER COUNTY  
5250 PH NURSE  
Classification: Competitive  
5251 PH NUR PT  
Classification: Non-Competitive  
Grade: N18  
Union: CSEA

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