

LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Human Resources Division

Class Description
PSYCHIATRIC SOCIAL WORKER

Job Purpose

Promotes early identification of students with behavioral, social, and/or emotional problems and provides opportunities for ameliorative intervention; and recommends procedures for dealing with those effects on a student's learning and behavior.

Responsible to

Director, Mental Health Services; Assistant Director, School Mental Health;
Field Coordinator, Mental Health Services; Specialist, Psychiatric Social Work; or designee.

Subordinates

Supervises the work of classified personnel as assigned.

Functions

Essential Functions

1. Provides individual, group and family treatment targeting students who are at risk of school failure due to social, behavioral, and emotional problems utilizing evidence based and/or evidence informed practices.
2. Provides student and parent psycho-education on topics that include mental health, trauma awareness, social skills, conflict mediation, grief, drug prevention, and other social emotional issues that impact learning.
3. Promotes parent engagement in the educational process.
4. Provides parent education programs.
5. Utilizes electronic health records for documentation pertaining to programmatic requirements, and to comply with federal, state and Department of Mental Health regulations.
6. Conducts staff development to address barriers to learning and restore and maintain a safe and healthy learning environment for students, staff, and parents, including: Impact of Trauma and Learning, Psychological First Aid, Crisis Intervention, Threat Assessment and Management, and Suicide Prevention Services.
7. Collaborates with teachers and school staff providing mental health consultation to develop strategies for classroom management, designing and monitoring behavior contracts, and positive behavior support planning and implementation.
8. Implements evidence-based interventions for individual, groups and families to address clinical symptoms of trauma, depression, anxiety and other clinical issues with fidelity and measurable outcomes.
9. Provides community referrals, linkages, and collaborations with District and community resources to address student and family needs.
10. Plans, coordinates, and participates in multidisciplinary teams, including: Coordination of Services Team (COST), Student Success Teams (SST), Resource Coordinating Council, School Wide Positive Behavior Support (SWPBS), and other activities.
11. Participates in school, central and decentralized District Crisis Teams and Threat Assessment Teams.
12. Provides support recovery programs for students and staff in the event of a natural disaster or act of violence/terrorism.

Other Functions

1. During periods of critical personnel shortage or other emergency situation, shall temporarily perform any duties, as directed, within the authorization of any credentials held by the incumbent which are registered with the Office of the Los Angeles County Superintendent of Schools and which are a part of the class description requirements in effect at the time such duties are performed.
2. Performs other duties as assigned in accordance with the District-UTLA Agreement.

Qualifications

Education

Required

An earned master's degree in social work from an accredited college or university accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE).

Credentials

One of the following California credentials authorizing K-12 service must be in force and on file in the Office of the Los Angeles County Superintendent of Schools:

1. A pupil personnel services credential authorizing service in social work
2. Services credential with specialization in health designating social work service

License

A valid license as a clinical social worker issued by the California Board of Behavioral Sciences OR immediate registration as an Associate Clinical Social Worker upon date of hire. Must remain in good standing with the California Board of Behavioral Sciences for the duration of the waivers permitted by law, not to exceed six years.

Experience

Required

At least one year of employment in the field of psychiatric social work while under supervision and working with school-age children, or a one-year field placement in a mental health setting working with school-age children.

Knowledge, Skills, Abilities, and Personal Characteristics

1. Ability to apply the principles and techniques of social work to mental health problems.
2. Skill in the various modes of social work with emphasis on crisis intervention, mental health consultation, and community organization.
3. Ability to relate social development to the emotional and mental disorders of learning.
4. Sensitivity to and understanding of the needs of English Learners (EL) students and parents.
5. Facility in oral and written communication in English.
6. Skill in using computer software such as Microsoft Office applications.
7. Skill in completing electronic health records utilizing Welligent or its successor software.
8. Understanding of the physical, intellectual, social, and emotional growth patterns of students.
9. Appropriate manner including poise, tact, good judgment, and ability to work effectively with District personnel, community representatives, parents, and students.

Health

Physical and mental fitness to engage in service as a psychiatric social worker as certified by a licensed physician and surgeon or medical officer pursuant to Education Code Section 44839 and evidence of freedom from active tuberculosis pursuant to Education Code Section 49406.

Special Requirements

A valid California Driver License and the use of an automobile.

This class description is not a complete statement of essential functions and responsibilities. The District retains the discretion to add or change typical duties of a position at any time.

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