

LOS ANGELES UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Human Resources Division

Class Description
CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST

Job Purpose

Serves in the Mental Health Services Section of Student Support Services; diagnoses or evaluates student behavior through observations, interviews, and psychological tests, and formulates and administers programs of treatment; and conducts professional development and training workshops for District staff and parents.

Responsible to

Field Coordinator, Mental Health Services

Subordinates

Classified personnel as assigned.

Functions

Essential Functions

1. Selects, administers, and interprets a wide variety of psychological testing instruments, for the purpose of arriving at differential diagnostic formulations and understanding of student behavior and difficulties where questions of behavioral or emotional disorders, perceptual-motor dysfunctions, organic brain damage, and functional retardation are raised.
2. Interviews students and parents for the purpose of making clinical observations relating to the students' difficulties and needs; assumes responsibility for providing guidance, direction, or short-term interventions as needed; provides information about community agencies when additional services are needed.
3. Writes psychological reports and case study summaries for the purpose of communicating findings to other team members and to appropriate professionals within the District or community.
4. Provides mental health consultation to district staff for the purposes of promoting mental health and preventing emotional difficulties.
5. Conducts staff development workshops and training, and assists in the in-service education of school personnel.
6. Teaches parenting skills to parent groups and social skills to children's groups.
7. Formulates plans, in cooperation with psychiatrists, psychiatric social workers, and school support services staff, to ameliorate the social/emotional problems of students.
8. Trains and supervises volunteers and aides.
9. Utilizes electronic health records for documentation pertaining to programmatic requirements, and to comply with federal, state and Department of Mental Health regulations.

Other Functions

1. During periods of critical personnel shortage or other emergency situations, shall temporarily perform any duties, as directed, within the authorization of any credentials held by the incumbent that are registered with the Office of the Los Angeles County Superintendent of Schools and that 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

An earned master's degree or equivalent degree in psychology including a minimum of two years of full-time graduate level coursework in clinical psychology from a regionally-accredited college or university.

Experience

Two years of successful experience as clinical psychologist or as psychological assistant in a mental health clinic or hospital involving work with children and parents preferably on a collaborative team of child psychiatrists, psychologists, and psychiatric social workers OR one year in a clinical setting and two years in a school (K-12) setting as a clinical psychologist or psychological assistant.

NOTE: For definitions of years of service, refer to Policy Guide E23.

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 valid Services Credential with specialization in pupil personnel services authorizing service as a school psychologist
2. A valid Health Services Credential authorizing service as a clinical psychologist
3. A valid General Pupil Personnel Services Credential authorizing service as a school psychologist
4. A valid School Psychologist Credential

Knowledge, Skills, Abilities, and Personal Characteristics

1. Demonstrable proficiency in utilizing appropriate psychological examinations.
2. Knowledge and understanding of methods and procedures of clinical child psychology.
3. Skill in providing mental health consultation to district staff.
4. Ability to provide clinical psychological services to children two years of age and above.
5. Understanding of the physical, intellectual, social, and emotional growth patterns of students.
6. Facility in oral and written communication.
7. Appropriate professional appearance and manner.
8. Poise, tact, and sound judgment in carrying out clinical duties.
9. Ability to work effectively with students, parents, District personnel, and community agencies.

Health

Physical and mental fitness to engage in service as a clinical psychologist 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.

NOTE: This is a Special Services Salary (D) Table classification.

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.

JLH