

PHYSICIAN'S ASSISTANT

Definition:

Under supervision of a physician, secures clinical data from patients; provides specified medical services to patients; manages certain patients in clinical settings; responsible for on-going management of selected groups of patients and performs work as may be required by the supervising physician within the scope of his/her licensure.

Distinguishing Characteristics

Incumbents in this classification have advanced training which allows them to provide primary care on both an episodic and short-term basis to defined patient populations under the supervision of a licensed physician.

Essential Functions:

- Interviews patients to obtain medical histories.
- Performs physical examinations.
- Orders specified diagnostic tests.
- Diagnoses and prescribes treatment for common illnesses.
- Performs screening or diagnostic procedures.
- Educates patients about common medical, social and psychological conditions.
- Provides well baby and child services, such as assessment of growth and development and recognition of abnormal states of health in infants and children or adult health care; scope of practice may include pre- and post-natal care.
- Assesses patient needs and modifies treatment plans as indicated within the scope of his/her practice.
- Performs other related services under supervision of a licensed physician, as permitted by standardized protocols and within the scope of his/her licensure.
- Dependent upon area of practice or department assignments, demonstrates clinical knowledge and skill in the care of the newborn, infant, toddler, child, adolescent, adult and geriatric patient ranging up to 100+ years of age.

Employment Standards:

Completion of a Physician's Assistant training program approved by the California Board of Medical Quality Assurance and possession of a current valid certificate issued by the California Board of Medical Quality Assurance. A minimum of one (1) year clinical experience is desirable.

Additional Requirements:

- Possession and maintenance of a current American Heart Association Healthcare Provider Basic Life Support (BLS) card.
- Depending on assignment incumbents may be required to possess and maintain specific certificates of competency as a condition of employment.

Knowledge of: human physiology, basic medical terminology, disease symptomatology and treatment modalities and processes.

Ability to: communicate with physicians, patients and other healthcare professionals; follow established procedures and protocols.

A background check may be conducted for this classification.

All Kern County employees are designated "Disaster Service Workers" through state and local laws (CA Government Code Sec. 3100-3109 and Ordinance Code Title 2-Administration, Ch. 2.66 Emergency Services). As Disaster Service Workers, all County employees are expected to remain at work, or to report for work as soon as practicable, following a significant emergency or disaster.