

NURSE PRACTITIONER
Option I: Public Health
Option II: Behavioral Health

Definition:

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

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:

Incumbents at Public Health perform the following essential functions:

- Interviews patients to obtain medical histories and performs physical examinations; accesses the clinical status of patients; establishes and maintains health records.
- Orders specified diagnostic tests; diagnoses and prescribes treatment for common illnesses.
- Performs screening or diagnostic procedures including, but not limited to, audiometry, breast examinations, pelvic examinations and Pap smears.
- Provides family planning counseling and guidance to clients including selection of appropriate contraceptive devices, including fitting and placing those devices, prescribing of appropriate contraceptives and treatment for disease processes.
- Educates patients about common medical, social and psychological conditions.
- Consults with physicians regarding patient's condition, diagnosis, treatment plan, medication orders as necessary.

Incumbents at the Behavioral Health and Recovery Services Department perform the following essential functions under the supervision of a licensed physician, as permitted by standardized protocols and within the scope of their licensure:

- Secures clinical data from patients to provide specified medical services and manage patients in a clinical setting.
- Interviews patients to obtain medical histories; responsible for on-going management of selected groups of patients.
- Performs physical examinations, orders specified diagnostic tests, makes diagnoses, and prescribes treatment for common illnesses.
- Performs screening of diagnostic procedures and educates patients about common medical, social and psychological conditions.
- Assesses patients needs and modifies treatment plans as indicated within the scope of their practice.

Other Functions:

- Performs other-related services under the supervision of a licensed physician, as permitted by standardized protocols and within the scope of their licensure.
- Performs other job-related duties as required.

Employment Standards: - Public Health

Completion of an approved educational program for Nurse Practitioners; current licensure as a Registered Nurse in the State of California which specifies that the individual is licensed as a Nurse Practitioner.

OR Possession of a valid certificate issued by the Board of Registered Nursing authorizing use of the title Nurse Practitioner.

Depending on assignment incumbents may be required to possess and maintain specific certificates of competency as a condition of employment.

Positions assigned to Public Health require possession and maintenance of a current American Heart Association Healthcare Provider Basic Life Support (BLS) card, and must meet and adhere to all regulatory and hospital policies including those governing all employee health screening.

Knowledge of: human physiology, basic medical terminology, disease symptomatology, and treatment modalities and processes; basic health services and standards for medications used to treat those disorders, routine diagnostic and treatment techniques, roles and responsibilities of community health care agencies and related health professionals.

Ability to: observe and record symptoms and behaviors, diagnose a medical condition and perform therapeutic procedures to solve the problem, conduct physical examinations; collect, organize, record and communicate data relevant to health assessments including detailed medical histories, physical examinations and selected laboratory findings; evaluate medical findings and make suitable recommendations, interpret special screening tests and laboratory findings, communicate with physicians, patients and other health professionals; follow established procedures and protocols.

Employment Standards: - Behavioral Health

Completion of an approved education program for Nurse Practitioners; current license as a Registered Nurse in the State of California which specifies that the individual is licensed as a Nurse Practitioner.

OR Possession of a valid certificate issued by the Board of Registered Nursing authorizing use of the title Nurse Practitioner.

Knowledge of: human physiology, basic medical terminology, disease symptomatology, and treatment modalities and processes; basic mental health services and standards for medications used to treat psychiatric disorders.

Ability to: communicate with physicians, patients and other health 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.

Revised
April 2019
#1513
JS1513