

PRE-LICENSED VOCATIONAL NURSE

Definition:

Under close supervision, to provide patient care as assigned in a hospital, clinic, correctional facility, or in-patient psychiatric setting.

Distinguishing Characteristics

This class differs from that of Vocational Nurse I in that a valid California License as a Vocational Nurse is not required, however, the basic pre-service Vocational Nurse curriculum accredited by the California Board of Vocational Nurse and Psychiatric Technician Examiners must have been completed within one (1) year prior to appointment. Promotions to Vocational Nurse I are considered on a merit basis after the employee has received a valid California License as a Vocational Nurse subject to recommendation by the employee's department head and approval by the Director of Personnel.

Essential Functions:

- Performs patient care functions utilizing broad knowledge in the techniques, methods, procedures and equipment required in support of the registered nurse and medical staff in patient treatment.
- Performs general nursing care in various departments.
- Uses the mechanical lift in moving patients.
- Performs minor dressing changes, cauterizations, bathing, colostomy care and traction care; takes and records temperature, pulse and respiration; observes and keeps records and reports unusual conditions or behavior.
- Participates in development of nursing care plans; maintains records reflecting patient's condition, medication, and treatment.
- Prepares patients for examinations and treatments; administers special diets, and treatments as prescribed; and assists staff with dressings.
- 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.
- Performs other job-related duties as required.

Employment Standards:

Completion of a basic pre-service Vocational Nurse curriculum accredited by the California Board of Vocational Nurse and Psychiatric Technician examiners within one (1) year of appointment.

Dependent upon assignment, applicants may be required to pass an extensive background check and be fingerprinted. Disqualification for felony, misdemeanor, and traffic offenses will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.

A valid California Class "C" Driver's License is required at the time of appointment.

Possession and maintenance of a current American Heart Association Healthcare Provider Basic Life Support (BLS) card.

Broad knowledge of: a variety of techniques, methods, procedures, and equipment utilized in patient care.

Ability to: utilize a variety of techniques, methods, procedures, and equipment used in patient care; maintain effective relations with the registered nurse and medical staff; follow instructions as given; work shifts as required; react competently in emergency situations.

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.