

## CHIEF PSYCHOLOGIST (CMHS)

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: Under general supervision, an incumbent directs and administers a program of psychological services. An incumbent supervises and directs the Psychology Services at the Department of Community Mental Health, which functions as an ortho-psychiatric team providing psychological assessments, evaluations and intervention to patients and clients. Incumbent also performs psychological research, provides psychological consultation in the more complex cases and conducts ongoing evaluation of clinical services. Responsibility also includes the review and evaluation of psychological services in affiliated and sub-contract agencies. Supervision is exercised over a number of professional psychologists, psychology interns and externs. Does related work as required.

### EXAMPLES OF WORK: (Illustrative Only)

Supervises a psychological program which includes testing, evaluations, consultations, therapy and research;

Selects, assigns and supervises the activities of senior psychologists, clinical psychologists, psychology interns and externs;

Delegates responsibilities to senior psychologists for various aspects of the psychology program;

Contacts and plans with other departments or agencies needed services which psychologists can provide;

Plans and participates in departmental meetings;

Develops and implements programs;

Prepares statistical and narrative reports on the activities of the department and on research and program evaluation findings and such other reports as may be required;

Determines types of tests to be used generally by psychologists, and interprets tests in the more complex cases;

Handles all personnel matters relating to the department, including recruitment, hiring and in-service training;

Supervises and instructs subordinate staff members and psychological interns through staff conferences and the review of test interpretations;

Evaluates the psychology program and both plans and initiates changes for the purpose of improving the program;

Supervises and/or performs such research activities as may be necessary.

REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND ATTRIBUTES: Thorough knowledge of normal, healthy psychological development and adaptation throughout the life span; thorough knowledge of patterns of deviant adaptation and psychopathology; thorough knowledge of the social, cultural, genetic and familial factors contributing to inadequate adjustment; knowledge and skill in psychological assessment techniques including but not limited to clinical interviewing and psychometrics; ability to supervise and develop the skills of subordinate psychologists; ability to exercise good judgment in the analysis and treatment of individual cases as well as in the administration of psychological testing programs; ability to work as part of a multi-disciplinary team with other health professionals such as psychiatrists, social workers and occupational/recreational therapists; ability to work well with other disciplines; ability to administer and continually evaluate and revise the psychology program to implement new developments in the field; ability to present ideas and analyses effectively both orally and in writing; initiative; well adjusted personality; physical condition commensurate with the requirements of the position.

MINIMUM ACCEPTABLE TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE: A Doctor of Philosophy Degree\* in Psychology and five years of professional experience in psychology, two of which must have been at the clinical supervisory level.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS: Must possess and retain a current license to practice psychology issued by the New York State Department of Education.

\*SPECIAL NOTE: Education beyond the secondary must be from an institution recognized or accredited by the Board of Regents of the New York State Education Department as a post-secondary, degree-granting institution.