

DIRECTOR-RECREATION THERAPY

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: Under general supervision, the incumbent of this class is responsible for planning, implementing and directing therapeutic recreation programs for the purpose of improving patient's physical, mental and social well-being. Supervision is exercised over a number of recreation therapy personnel. Does related work as required.

EXAMPLES OF WORK: (Illustrative Only)

Organizes and directs therapeutic activities such as arts, crafts, social activities games and group discussions in accordance with patient's needs, capabilities and interests;

Assures that the Recreational Therapists perform assessments and report on patient condition and development to the treatment team and document the patient's chart;

Supervises and trains recreation therapists, aides, and volunteers providing advice and guidance in carrying out activities, and teaching them techniques and goals of recreational therapeutic services;

Instructs other departments regarding therapeutic recreation;

Attends and participates in general staff seminars as well as meetings for patient screening and evaluation for the purposes of continuously updating professional knowledge and enhancing program activity effectiveness;

Orders equipment and maintains daily activities area;

Uses computer applications or other automated systems such as spreadsheets, word processing, calendar, e-mail and database software in performing work assignments;

Accesses protected health information (PHI) in accordance with departmental assignments and guidelines defining levels of access (i.e. incidental vs. extensive).

REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND ATTRIBUTES: Thorough knowledge of the principles and methods used in recreational therapy programs; thorough knowledge of recreational activities such as games, music, dramatics, arts and crafts, sports and hobbies; good knowledge of the facility's routines, procedures and policies as they apply to the recreation program; ability to establish and maintain effective relationships with patients in order to stimulate their interest in recreational activities; ability to develop and implement recreational service programs to meet patient's needs and interests; ability to direct individual and group activities; ability to work effectively with individuals and groups; ability to prepare and maintain accurate records and reports; ability to effectively use computer applications such as spreadsheets, word processing, calendar, e-mail and database software in performing work assignments; good judgment; tact; resourcefulness; initiative; integrity; physical condition commensurate with the demands of the position.

MINIMUM ACCEPTABLE TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE: A Bachelor's Degree* in Therapeutic Recreation, General Recreation, Psychology, Music, Dance, Art, Drama, Sociology, or Physical Education and five years experience where the primary function of the position was in an activities program for patients in a hospital or health care setting, providing therapeutic services.

SUBSTITUTION: A Master's Degree* in one of the above fields may be substituted for one year of experience.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT: At the time of appointment a candidate must have submitted credentials to the New York State Department of Health, which shall include an application for verification of qualifications.

NOTE: Unless otherwise noted, only experience gained after attaining the minimum education level indicated in the minimum qualifications will be considered in evaluating experience.

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

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J.C.: Competitive
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Job Group: XI

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