

CLASS SPECIFICATION
County of Fairfax, Virginia

CLASS CODE: 3175

TITLE: COMMUNITY HEALTH SPECIALIST

GRADE: S-22

DEFINITION:

Under general supervision, to perform professional work in the administration of health programs to prevent and /or control infectious and chronic diseases and to do related work as required

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CLASS:

Not applicable

ILLUSTRATIVE DUTIES:

Plans, develops and/or delivers health education programs to specific target populations with emphasis on prevention and control of communicable and chronic diseases.

Prepares and/or gathers health education written and audiovisual materials for specific target groups;

Makes presentations utilizing ethnical sensitive materials and adult learning concepts;

Measures the effectiveness of the community communicable and chronic disease prevention and education efforts, gathers statistical data, and prepares reports;

Serves as a liaison with other disease-oriented community, regional or state education groups;

Identifies and works with sub-groups of the community to organize and implement communicable and chronic disease education services;

Develops, collects and analyzes basic statistical data specific to assigned program area;

Works with epidemiologist/manager to develop and implement recommendations;

Conducts health screenings and informs patients of test results;

Performs field investigations of reported communicable disease cases;

Interviews disease suspects and refers suspected cases to diagnostic and treatment facilities.

May assist the Public Health Emergency Management Coordinator in educating the community on pandemic preparedness in addition to emergency preparedness activities.

REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES:

Knowledge of program development, implementation and elementary evaluation;

Knowledge of communities being served, cultural diversities and resources available;

Knowledge of the social, economic and environmental factors that increase an individual's and community's risk for chronic disease (e.g. communicable disease, stressor diseases such as cardiovascular disease, obesity, diabetes and asthma);

Knowledge of disease management/health promotions models that target the treatment of disease in symptomatic or at-risk individuals;

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Ability to conduct enhances screening, monitoring and education, coordination of care (i.e. physicians, hospitals, laboratories, and pharmacies) and evidence-based practice guidelines to identify and treat disease conditions before they advance to an acute or chronic stage;

Ability to develop, collect and analyze outcome data to evaluate effectiveness of disease management/health promotion programs;

Ability to plan, develop and/or deliver health education programs to specific target populations including health promotion, wellness and prevention programs;

Ability to work independently and deliver health education presentations within the community;

Ability to work predominantly with adults, applying learning concepts;

Ability to work with sub-group of the community to organize and implement health education services;

Ability to communicate effectively through the use of verbal, written and electronic means.

EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS:

Any combination of education and experience equivalent to graduation from an accredited four-year college or university with a bachelors degree in health education, human services, or a directly related field; plus one year of experience in communicable and/or chronic disease education, investigation or other types of health-related work involving considerable public contact.

CERTIFICATES AND LICENSES REQUIRED:

None

NECESSARY SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:

None

REVISED: January 19, 2007
ESTABLISHED: March 26, 1990