



State of New Mexico
Classification Description

RECREATIONAL THERAPY

General Summary

Recreational Therapists provide treatment services and recreational activities for individuals with disabilities, substance abuse or illnesses. Using a variety of techniques including arts and crafts, pet therapy, sports and games, therapists improve and maintain the physical, mental and emotional well-being of their clients.

Recreational Therapy Aide

Jobcode: HREA10

Pay Band: HA

FLSA Status: FLSA status may be determined to be different at the agency level based on the agency's utilization of the position.

Distinguishing Characteristics*

Recreational Therapist Aide assists in the delivery of recreation-based treatment programs for people with disabilities, injuries or illnesses.

Recommended Education and Experience for Full Performance

High School Diploma or equivalent and six (6) months experience as it pertains to the essential duties and responsibilities of the classification.

Minimum Qualifications

High School Diploma or equivalent.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities

- Assists in providing meaningful therapeutic, medically approved recreation activities to patients/clientele to improve and maintain their physical and mental well-being.
- Escorts or transports residents to daily activities conducted either on unit, on facility grounds or in the community.
- Assists with teaching and monitoring clients to safely create, assemble, disassemble, repair and refurbish various products made from varying materials.
- Assists residents with feeding, grooming, and transport to and from activities.
- Assists in making changes to the activity board when necessary, determining which residents are suitable for each activity taking place on unit.
- Aides in prepping for daily activities, ordering supplies, and supervising residents at all times while engaged in department activities.

Recreational Therapist I

Jobcode: HREA13

Pay Band: HC

FLSA Status: FLSA status may be determined to be different at the agency level based on the agency's utilization of the position.

Distinguishing Characteristics

First level Recreational Therapist accountable for planning and coordinating recreation-based treatment for people with disabilities, injuries or illnesses.

Recommended Education and Experience for Full Performance

High School Diploma or equivalent and current Certification as a Recreational Therapist and two (2) years of experience as it pertains to the essential duties and responsibilities of the classification.

RECREATIONAL THERAPY

Minimum Qualifications

High School Diploma or equivalent and one (1) year experience as it pertains to the essential duties and responsibilities of the classification.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities*

- Assesses patients, performs treatment planning, and facilitates activities using and maintaining therapy equipment, and maintaining documentation.
- Provides psychosocial skills training, basic living skills and therapeutic socialization activities for outpatient groups.
- Keeps current on communal and therapeutic resources available to best help the patient.
- Facilitates and monitors clients to safely create, assemble, disassemble, repair and refurbish products made from varying materials.
- Leads clientele and institutional residents in recreational activities and implements therapeutic programming that stresses improvement of individual residents as a part of a coordinated treatment plan.
- Coordinates recreational activities with nursing staff and other departments and works with the visual or hearing impaired to provide modified recreation.
- Arranges trips outside the institution for residents and teaches a variety of sports-related life skills.
- Attends and participates in treatment team meetings, interdisciplinary care plans, completes assessments and progress notes.

Recreational Therapist II

Jobcode: HREA15

Pay Band: HD

FLSA Status: FLSA status may be determined to be different at the agency level based on the agency's utilization of the position.

Distinguishing Characteristics*

Second level Recreational Therapist accountable for planning, directing and coordinating recreation-based treatment programs for people with disabilities, injuries or illnesses. Recreational Therapist II differs from a Recreational Therapist I in the training and orientation of entry-level therapists and proficiency in the care of patients and in therapeutic methods.

Recommended Education and Experience for Full Performance

Associates' Degree in a relevant discipline, current Certification as a Recreational Therapist and three (3) years of experience as it pertains to the essential duties and responsibilities of the classification.

Minimum Qualifications

High School Diploma or equivalent and two (2) years of experience as it pertains to the essential duties and responsibilities of the classification.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities.

- May work as Vocational Work Program Coordinator within an Adult Psychiatric Division, Rehabilitation, Vocational Services Department, acute or long term care facility.
- Designs, implements, and facilitates activities and mentors work program participants, documenting progress for the varied skills and ability levels of a diverse mental health or physically impaired population.
- Visits worksites and monitors client's progress and requests feedback from supervisors and attending staff who manage the candidate at the worksite.

RECREATIONAL THERAPY

- Makes recommendations for changes to therapeutic programs and may develop and monitor the program budget, including the authorization of expenditures.
- Ensures that all health code regulations are followed.
- Provides in-service training to institution staff.
- Attends and participates in treatment team meetings, interdisciplinary care plans, completes assessments and progress notes.

Recreational Therapist Supervisor **

Jobcode: HRES17

Pay Band: HE

FLSA Status: FLSA status may be determined to be different at the agency level based on the agency's utilization of the position.

Distinguishing Characteristics

Recreational Therapist Supervisor is responsible for directing services, oversight and review of work and documentation of subordinate personnel. This level of work differs from a Recreational Therapist II as a working supervisor who devotes a substantial portion of time assigning work and directly supervising the work of Recreational Therapists**

Recommended Education and Experience for Full Performance

Bachelors' Degree in a relevant discipline, current Certification as a Recreational Therapist and three (3) years of experience as a Recreational Therapist and one (1) of supervisory experience as it pertains to the essential duties and responsibilities of the classification.

Minimum Qualifications

Associates' Degree in a relevant discipline and three (3) years of experience as it pertains to the essential duties and responsibilities of the classification.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities*

- Coordinates and approves activities to be carried out by employees in a recreation-based treatment program for people with disabilities, injuries or illnesses.
- Evaluates program effectiveness, makes changes to therapeutic programs and may develop and monitor the program budget, including the authorization of expenditures.
- Participates in interdisciplinary team meeting for patients/clientele.
- Accountable for assessing patients, performing treatment planning, facilitating activities, using and maintaining therapy equipment, and maintaining documentation.
- Acts upon leave requests, conducts annual performance evaluations, and recommends disciplinary actions.
- Orders and obtains supplies for sale and stocks merchandise.
- Ensures that all patient progress reports are completed and corrected in a timely manner.
- Ensures compliance with state and federal regulations.
- Interviews and recommends the selection of applicants and conducts the training of personnel.
- May have responsibility for the total recreational program.
- Provides in-service training to department staff.
- Attend and participate in treatment team meetings, interdisciplinary care plans, complete assessments and progress notes.

RECREATIONAL THERAPY

Statutory Requirements: Statutory requirements for individual positions in this classification will vary based on each agency's utilization, essential functions and the recruitment needs at the time a vacancy is posted including. It is the hiring Agencies responsibility to ensure the appropriate licenses/certifications are obtained for each position.

Conditions of Employment: Conditions of employment for individual positions in this classification will vary based on each agency's utilization, essential functions and the recruitment needs at the time a vacancy is posted.

Working Conditions: Working Conditions for individual positions in this classification will vary based on each agency's utilization, essential functions and the recruitment needs at the time a vacancy is posted. All requirements are subject to possible modification to reasonably accommodate individuals with disabilities.

Established: 10/18/2019

Revised:

**Essential Duties and Responsibilities are intended to be cumulative for each progressively higher level of work. The omission of specific statements does not preclude management from assigning other duties which are reasonably within the scope of duties. Classification description subject to change. Please refer to SPO website (www.spo.state.nm.us) to ensure this represents the most current copy of the position.*

*** Supervisor must supervise two (2) or more full-time positions.*