



Health Educator

Class Code: 8147

Date Established: 06-30-80

Date Revised: 09-13-05

OVERVIEW:

Under general direction, the Health Educator plans, directs, implements and coordinates health education programs in a Student Health Center; and professionally contributes to developing goals, objectives and evaluation of health education functions.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS:

The Health Educator is distinguished from Health Education Assistant in that the incumbents have the responsibility for implementing and evaluating a broad spectrum of health education programs, including use of media for public information, training or teaching students, and consulting and coordinating with other health professionals in the development and administration of an integrated prevention and treatment program. Health Educators provide leadership in developing sound educational methods of solving health problems. They are distinguished from the Health Education Assistant by the responsibility for developing a broad and integrated health education program involving several disciplines and designed to achieve both long and short range goals.

TYPICAL ACTIVITIES:

Incumbents in this classification plan and evaluate health educational and consultative functions that reflect the needs of campus population; develop operational policies and plans necessary for the achievement of health education objectives and services; coordinate activities with other Health Center departments; may conduct studies and surveys to determine priority needs and effective methods for producing programs to meet these needs; establish priorities for the solution of health education problems by planning and developing health education activities, selecting and utilizing public and private health resources and motivating others to lead and participate in improving their health status; develop educational techniques designed to stimulate participation in special health programs; prepare health education mass-media materials and develop or arrange for the development of audio-visual materials for health programs; plan and conduct pre-tests to evaluate teaching and informational materials such as pamphlets, flyers, slide series and flip charts; may do preventive health/medical care counseling; instruct students in principles of health by group or individual instruction; organize and conduct educational programs on various health topics that will contribute to the improvement of student health by bringing about change in understanding, attitudes and behavior; may conduct health education programs which are highly developed and thoroughly cover the subject matter; obtain the active participation of other departments in identifying campus health problems and in planning and stimulating action for their solution; keep records and prepare a variety of written and verbal reports; and may develop a health education manual and files of appropriate resources.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

Knowledge and Abilities:

Thorough knowledge of program planning and evaluation. General knowledge of, or ability to learn quickly, current and emerging college age student health problems and existing methods of intervention and control; and audio and visual education materials. Working knowledge of the principles of educational and social psychology and how they apply to a health education program.

Ability to assess needs and establish or recommend program priorities and develop goals to achieve these; plan, organize and implement a variety of health education activities; develop educational materials and media such as pamphlets and video tapes; present ideas accurately, effectively and concisely, both orally and in writing; establish and maintain effective working relationships with peers, students, medical and other health professionals, representatives of the news media and other community groups; plan, organize and conduct discussion sessions, workshops and other health education programs; collect, compile, chart, and analyze data pertinent to health education program planning and apply in developing logical program suggestions.

Experience:

Equivalent to two years of progressively responsible health education experience which indicates possession of the knowledge and abilities listed above.

An American Public Health Association approved master's degree in Public Health with emphasis on health education or a master's degree in Health Science or Public Health Administration or equivalent discipline may be substituted for one year of health education experience.

Education:

Equivalent to bachelor's degree in an approved program in health education, social work, social sciences, nursing or similar field. Possession of a California license as a registered nurse and one year of experience which included responsibility in a major aspect of health education is one of several experience patterns which will be considered equivalent to a bachelor's degree in a related field.