

# **NURSE PRACTITIONER/PHYSICIANS ASSISTANT Tompkins County**

**Department:** Mental Health Department

**Classification:** Competitive

**Labor Grade:** 18

**Approved:** 0

## **MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: EITHER:**

(a) Certification to practice as a Family Nurse Practitioner **AND** one year of full-time paid (or the equivalent part-time) experience providing counseling and education to patients as a Registered Nurse or Nurse Practitioner; **OR**

(b) Certification to practice as a Physician's Assistant **AND** one year of full-time paid (or the equivalent part-time) experience providing counseling and education to patients as a Physician's Assistant.

Tompkins County is Committed to Equity and Inclusion. We encourage those with similar values to apply.

## **SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS FOR ACCEPTANCE OF APPLICATIONS:**

1. If qualifying under (a) above, the applicant must possess a New York State Registered Professional Nurse's license at the time of application. Possession of a New York State Registered Nurse Practitioner license (family) and DEA license is required at the time of appointment.

If qualifying under (b) above, the applicant must possess a Physician's Assistant Certification at the time of application. Possession of the Physician's Assistant and DEA license is required at the time of appointment.

2. Appointees will also be required to possess and maintain a valid New York State Driver's License or otherwise demonstrate the ability to meet the transportation requirements of the position.

**DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS:** This is a professional position encompassing a full range of responsibilities within either the Health or Mental Health Department. The work will include physical examination, phlebotomy, injections, emergency medical care and, other nursing duties as needed, as part of the interdisciplinary team. In addition, the individual will provide counseling and education to patients in aid of prevention, treatment and rehabilitation of various types of physical or mental illness. The individual will write prescriptions (appropriate to their level of licensure) under the supervision of the medical director and departmental psychiatrists. The incumbent will perform all related duties as required.

## **TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:**

Provides professional Nurse Practitioner or Physician's Assistant service as a member of a multi-disciplinary treatment team; Provides physical examination when needed; Writes prescriptions under supervision and appropriate to the level of licensure; Consultation with primary care providers; Assesses and identifies patient nursing care needs and prepares and carries out a nursing care plan; Participates in the intake, screening and diagnostic evaluation of clinic patients and/or their family members; Visits patients' homes to identify factors in the social, psychological and physical environment which may contribute to the disability; May refer clients to other agencies for a variety of needed services; Makes recommendations to fellow team members regarding emergency or continuing care and suggests alternative treatment plans; Maintains contact with agencies such as schools, social services and probation officers to understand and/or overcome clients' medical and psychological problems; Advises the family of methods of dealing with or correcting emergency situations and on the availability of medical, social, and housing facilities for the patient in the community; Participates in and assists fellow team members in assessing, planning for, meeting and evaluating patient and family member needs to aid in the formulation of a treatment plan; Assists in Public Health or Mental Health education, consultation, and public relation activities; Provides in-service health or psychiatric nursing education, orientation and consultation to staff and other community agencies; Attends courses and performs independent study and reading to further professional growth; and Complies and maintains a variety of records, reports and statistical information.

## **FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:**

Thorough knowledge of psychiatric and other medication; Thorough knowledge of the principals and practices of public health or mental health nursing; Good knowledge of current trends and theories in the nursing care and treatment of patients with physical, mental or emotional problems; Good knowledge of community organizations and resources available; Working knowledge of abnormal signs and symptoms relating to physical, psychological and emotional health; Working knowledge of individual and group counseling techniques; Ability to provide mental health teaching and consultation to staff and community agencies; Ability to establish and maintain cooperative working relationships with patients, families and colleagues; Ability to communicate effectively both orally and in writing; Ability to perform close, detail work involving considerable visual effort and strain; Skill in the application of current nursing procedures and techniques of patient care; Empathy for persons with physical, emotional and mental health problems; and Physical condition commensurate with the demands of the position.