

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF CENTRAL MANAGEMENT SERVICES
CLASS SPECIFICATION

CHILD WELFARE NURSE SPECIALIST

POSITION CODE: 07197

Effective: 5-1-03

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF WORK:

Under general supervision, conducts investigations concerning allegations of child abuse or neglect. Collaborates with various members of the medical community, law enforcement agencies, courts and education systems and other agency personnel in determining case findings and to ensure the child's safety.

ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLES OF WORK:

1. Reviews medical reports of child abuse or neglect; researches necessary data concerning case by contacting various local governmental and medical community personnel to determine underlying cause of abuse or neglect. Prepares reports concerning investigations.
2. Provides professional medical opinion to other professional investigative staff concerning diagnosis of abuse or neglect problems such as assessment of current symptoms in relation to an acute or chronic condition, differentiating between a minor ailment versus a trend toward a more major involvement and critical point of an illness requiring an advanced professional opinion.
3. Maintains professional interrelationships with hospitals and members of the medical community in order to develop and promote awareness of and the need to document and report cases of abuse or neglect.
4. Conducts home, school and hospital visits to determine medical and physical problems and to assess living environment; appraises the child's condition and makes decisions as to whether or not the child is at risk if it remains in the home.
5. Participates with other child welfare follow-up staff in developing a diagnostic and treatment plan involving the child, parents and the family unit.

CHILD WELFARE NURSE SPECIALIST (Continued)

6. Develops a comprehensive base of community resources and appraises agency staff of the availability of such resources.
7. Makes court appearances in child abuse or neglect cases to provide testimony concerning the medical aspect of the case.
8. Prepares and presents programs concerning child abuse and neglect to various community agencies.
9. Performs other duties as required or assigned which are reasonably within the scope of the duties enumerated above.

DESIRABLE REQUIREMENTS:

Education and Experience

Requires (a) graduation from an approved nursing education program resulting in an associate or diploma degree in nursing and three years of progressively responsible professional nursing experience; or (b) a bachelor's degree in nursing and two years of professional nursing experience; or (c) a master's degree in nursing.

Requires licensure as a Registered Nurse in the State of Illinois.

Knowledges, Skills and Abilities

Requires extensive knowledge of pediatric nursing.

Requires thorough knowledge of medical and physical implications of childhood abnormal behavior or attitudes.

Requires thorough knowledge of state, federal, local laws and agency Rules and procedures regarding child abuse or neglect.

Requires working knowledge of the principles and practices of social work.

Requires ability to prepare accurate detailed reports of investigations.

Requires ability to develop and maintain harmonious and productive working relationships with the medical community, various local governmental agencies, parents and family members.

Requires ability to present awareness and prevention programs to various community agencies.

In addition to English verbal and written skills, candidates may be required to translate, speak and write a foreign language at a colloquial skill level. Some positions may require manual communication skills.