

**CLASS TITLE: PUBLIC/HEALTH EDUCATION SPECIALIST  
(CORRECTIONS)**

**Class Code: 02709700  
Pay Grade: 31A  
EO: B**

**CLASS DEFINITION:**

**GENERAL STATEMENT OF DUTIES:** To implement a corrections institution-wide program concerning contagious diseases (such as HIV Infections, TB, Hepatitis, Etc.), which includes educational workshops for staff and clients, pre- and post-test counseling, coordination of medical treatment, coordination of medical treatment of inmates with outside health care and educational agencies and evaluation of program. The Corrections/Health Education Specialist is a member of an interdisciplinary team, which has as its focus the alleviation of HIV infection, its related diseases and any other contagious diseases so assigned to the team's care.

**SUPERVISION RECEIVED:** Works under the administrative direction of a superior with some latitude for the exercise of initiative and independent judgement. Work will be received in process and upon completion for results obtained and conformance with program objectives, laws, policies and accepted professional standards.

**SUPERVISION EXERCISED:** Under administrative direction of a superior, the Correction/Health Education Specialist may assign and supervise the work of professional, technical and clerical assistants engaged in the specific correctional institution-wide program.

**ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLES OF WORK PERFORMED:**

To implement an institution-wide program for educating all inmates and staff and testing all inmates at the Adult Correctional Institutions (ACI) for HIV infection related diseases.

To do pre- and post-test counseling with all inmates and staff, while at the same time protecting their right to confidentiality.

To medically coordinate the health care of HIV infected inmates while incarcerated at the ACI.

To coordinate clinical activities on behalf of all infected inmates with healthcare and educational agencies outside of the Department of Corrections.

To provide medical and nursing therapies, health care instructions and counseling to inmates and families.

To interpret nursing and health care needs of HIV infected inmates to other members of the interdisciplinary team.

To do discharge planning for HIV infected inmates to insure their followup at outside agencies.

To collect and analyze data pertaining to HIV infection and it's related diseases.

To make presentations at professional meetings.

To do related work as required.

**REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS FOR APPOINTMENT:**

**KNOWLEDGES, SKILLS AND CAPACITIES:** Have a working knowledge of social service agencies and their clientele; have good interpersonal skills; have the ability to make written and oral presentations; develop or participate in the development of brochures and written materials describing specific contagious diseases; have the ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with superiors, associates, subordinates, public groups, private and public agencies; and have related capacities and abilities.

## **EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:**

Education: Such as may have been gained through: a Master's Degree from an accredited school of Social Work, Counseling, Health Education or Public Health; or a current license as a Registered Nurse in the State of Rhode Island and possess a Bachelor's Degree from an accredited school of nursing.

Experience: Such as may have been gained through: considerable experience working in a healthcare related program in a correctional institution or social agency, that included direct contact with the general public.

Or, any combination of education and experience that shall be substantially equivalent to the above education and experience.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT: Within six (6) months must possess, or be able to obtain, certification of training from the U.S. Department of Health's Center for Disease Control in HIV Counseling and Testing Techniques.

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