

RECREATION SPECIALIST

Nature of Work: Under general supervision, at the full-performance level, performs recreation planning and participation work at a state health or rehabilitation facility. Plans and gathers materials, and leads activities for patients or clients. Ensures that activities are in compliance with court orders, certification guidelines and/or facility policy. Work may involve irregular hours. The position has significant latitude for planning activities within budgetary and programmatic limitations. Performs related work as required.

Examples of Work

Plans weekly and monthly activities to provide structural group or individual recreation for patients or clients.
 Instructs groups in team sports, arts and crafts, and group activities such as board games or aerobics.
 Oversees recreation room during leisure activities; instructs individuals in the safe use of equipment such as weights.
 Gathers and dispenses equipment, materials, and supplies.
 Organizes staff or volunteers to ensure adequate supervision and support services for activities such as day camping and special occasion parties.
 Evaluates activity-related injuries; applies first aid knowledge and/or contacts medical staff.
 Documents patient or client participation and behavior; plans individual activities to encourage or reinforce patient or client behavior.
 Monitors equipment usage; orders repairs or recommends replacement of equipment.
 Purchases materials used for activities.
 May drive buses or vans; may teach swimming, gardening, music, or other specialty area.
 May care for pets used in pet therapy.
 May attend staffings and treatment meetings; may conduct intake interviews with individuals arriving at the facility.

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities

Knowledge of a variety of games, sports, and leisure time activities.
 Knowledge of basic first aid and general safety.
 Knowledge of sports equipment, its uses and benefits.
 Ability to plan activities and determine necessary equipment and supplies.
 Ability to encourage and motivate patients, clients, and volunteers.
 Ability to follow oral and written instructions.
 Ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing.

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RECREATION SPECIALIST (CONT'D)

Minimum Qualifications

Training: Successful completion of sixty (60) semester hours with at least eighteen (18) hours in health, physical education, recreation, fine arts or therapeutic recreation from an accredited college or university.

Substitution: Full-time or equivalent part-time paid or volunteer experience in the area of health, physical education, recreation, or fine arts may substitute for the required education on a year-for-year basis.

OR

Registration as a Therapeutic Recreation Assistant or a Therapeutic Recreation Specialist as certified through the National Council for Therapeutic Recreation.

Established: 7/16/92
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