RECREATION ASSISTANT

Nature of Work: Under close supervision performs entry level recreation work in carrying out individual and group recreational activities in a state hospital, rehabilitation center or penal institution. The employee works with clients individually and in groups supervising them in sports, games and musical and dramatic activities, according to instructions received from program supervisor. The employee receives on-the-job training in recreation work from a specialist or supervisor. Performs related work as required.

Distinguishing Characteristics: This level of the Recreation Specialist series is the entry level. The work performed is done so under the direction of a Recreation Specialist, Recreation Specialist, Certified, or a unit supervisor. There is only a small degree of independence exercised in choosing methods and techniques used. Carries out specific instructions for segments of individualized therapeutic recreation programs as assigned by Recreation Specialist.

Examples of Work
Oversees indoor and outdoor games, teams and athletic events. Assists in planning group entertainment such as pageants, talent shows and special holiday activities. Works with special groups of clients. Escorts and/or chaperons clients to off-grounds activities. Cleans and may perform minor repairs on athletic and recreational equipment. May operate movie projector. Observes effect of recreational activities on clients and documents observations in appropriate records.

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities
Knowledge of a variety of recreational and leisure activities. Knowledge of basic first aid. Ability to learn behavior management techniques and first aid procedures. Ability to instruct and lead clients in recreational activities. Ability to record observations and clearly communicate ideas to treatment team. Ability to walk and stand for extended periods of time.

Minimum Qualifications
Training: Graduation from a standard four-year high school or the equivalent.
Experience: One year of full-time or equivalent part-time paid experience in the area of health, physical education, recreation or fine arts.
Minimum Qualifications (cont'd)

Substitution: Successful completion of thirty (30) semester hours with at least nine (9) hours in health, physical education, recreation, fine arts, or therapeutic recreation from an accredited college or university may substitute for the experience requirement.