

9902

DISEASE INTERVENTION SPECIALIST TRAINEE

Nature of Work

Under close supervision, performs work in a training capacity for at least one (1) year learning techniques used to identify and locate high-priority sexually transmitted disease (STD) and Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) cases, contacts and associates through field investigations to ensure rapid examination and treatment of those at risk. These positions learn to conduct personal interviews and field and internet investigations to obtain case-related information while maintaining strict patient confidentiality. These positions learn to explain the disease process, treatment, prevention and legal requirements; learn to provide education, consultation, and technical assistance to health department staff. Responsible for a specific geographic area which may encompass more than one county. Work is reviewed through reports and conferences with the supervisor. Considerable travel is required of this position. Performs related work as required.

Distinguishing Characteristics

These positions function at a trainee level. Incumbents assigned to this class are expected to acquire the work specific knowledge, skills, and abilities to function as a Disease Intervention Specialist. Serves in a training capacity for at least one (1) year.

Examples of Work

Learns to interview and/or re-interview patients, contacts, and associates to complete medical history, elicit contact and suspect information in order to locate disease source, and determine additional testing and treatment needs for infected patients.

Learns to maintain regular contact with private physicians, laboratory personnel, and state and local health department personnel to improve case reporting and obtain diagnostic and/or treatment information on cases.

Learns to conduct testing for detection of STDs and HIV; provides HIV Rapid Testing and PrEP Education. Maintains a high level of confidentiality when dealing with client records and in all aspects of STD/HIV work.

Learns to advise local health departments or health providers in investigation of unusual STD/HIV studies including outbreak or cluster investigations, standardized interviews of cases, and control methods.

Learns to perform Internet Partner Services (IPS) using IPS protocol and guidelines when appropriate and when all other locating methods have been exhausted.

Learns to give educational presentations to professional groups, lay groups, and civic groups interested and involved in the eradication of STDs/HIV; secures and disseminates information and educational materials to local health departments, private physicians, public and civic organizations, and to the general public.

Maintains thorough records and prepares required reports.

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities

Acquires knowledge of diagnostic procedures and treatment schedule recommendations for STDs/HIV.

Acquires knowledge of principles and practices of specific investigative methods, interviewing and supportive counseling techniques.

Ability to conduct sensitive interviews, investigations, surveys, and visits to obtain contact and suspect information in order to locate the STD/HIV source and make referral for treatment.

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DISEASE INTERVENTION SPECIALIST TRAINEE (cont'd)

Knowledge, Skills and Abilities (cont'd)

Ability to interpret and apply federal, state, and local public health laws, rules, and regulations which are applicable to STDs/HIV.

Ability to learn and use various social media platforms.

Ability to establish effective working relationships with clients, private physicians, laboratory personnel, schools, and local and state health department personnel.

Ability to present information and express ideas clearly and concisely to both professional and lay groups and individuals.

Ability to collect blood and/or saliva samples and to read and interpret lab test results.

Minimum Qualifications:

Training: Bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited college or university.

Substitution: Full-time or equivalent part-time paid professional experience in STD/HIV control, nursing, or social services and/or public health case management and investigation may substitute on a year-for-year basis for the required training.

Special Requirement: A valid driver's license and the availability of an automobile is required.

Established: 11/10/2018

Effective: 11/10/2018