

PSYCHIATRIC SOCIAL WORKER I (SOCIAL SERVICES)

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: This is entry-level professional social work involving responsibility for determining the need for and providing social work services to clients of the Department of Social Services. The work is performed under the direction of an administrator and clinical supervision, if needed, will be provided by a Licensed Master Social Worker or a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and in accordance with established policies and procedures. Does related work as required.

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:

Conducts psychosocial assessment of clients, primarily in order to identify needs for mental health services, and make referrals for services, as necessary;
Develops social work plans, as needed, and integrates such plans with other services provided by the Department of Social Services;
Interviews and observes clients and their families;
Maintains case records;
Participates in staff conferences on clients and their families and makes recommendations regarding treatment and service needs;
Acts as liaison with clients' families, community agencies, private and public sector organizations, other County departments, etc. in order to coordinate and ensure the provision of appropriate services.

FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:

Good knowledge of modern principles and techniques of social work; good knowledge of the nature and causes of mental illness, including substance abuse; good knowledge of the common forms of psychiatric disorders; ability to conduct interviews; ability to review data and summarize material for case records; ability to communicate effectively both orally and in writing; ability to establish and maintain cooperative relationships with others.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: A Master's degree in Social Work and possession of a valid license and current registration as a Licensed Master Social Worker (LMSW) or a Licensed Clinical Social Worker (LCSW) issued by the New York State Department of Education.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT:

Must maintain license and registration as an LMSW or LCSW issued by the New York State Department of Education throughout the course of employment in this title.