

DEPARTMENT OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

SUBSTANCE ABUSE SPECIALIST II
\$2,747.26- \$3,339.35

Applications will be accepted until 4:00 p.m. February 18, 2010

DEFINITION:

Under general supervision, to provide assessments, treatment planning, and counseling for Substance Abuse Program clients; to provide education, consultation services, and training for other staff, community agencies, and the public; to perform prevention activities designed to prevent alcohol and drug abuse in the County; and to do related work as required.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS

Knowledge of:

Psychological and social aspects and characteristics of substance abuse.
Drugs and drug abuse patterns, alcoholism, and the physiological effects of drug abuse and alcoholism.
Methods and techniques for conducting assessments of an individual's substance abuse problems.
Approved principles and practices of psychological counseling and group therapy.
Available community resources for substance abuse services.
Requirements and needs of persons with serious substance abuse problems.
State and local laws, policies, and procedures governing the administration of alcohol and drug prevention and treatment programs, especially those pertaining to an individual's legal rights.

Ability to:

Assess substance abuse problems and develop services to meet client problems, working and consulting with clients and other professional staff.
Conduct effective individual and group counseling related to substance abuse problems and recovery.
Recognize a potential crisis and deliver crisis intervention services.
Handle stress and unstable client behavior.
Communicate effectively with people from diverse ethnic and socioeconomic backgrounds.
Explain complex and technical terminology and concepts in an understandable and non-threatening manner.
Establish and maintain a variety of personal and administrative records, clinical documentation, and related materials.
Effectively represent the Substance Abuse Program in contacts with clients, the public, community organizations, other County staff, and other government organizations.
Establish and maintain cooperative working relationships.

Training and Experience:

Any combination of training and experience, which would likely provide the required knowledge and abilities, is qualifying. A typical way to obtain the required knowledge and abilities would be:

Two (2) years of experience working in substance abuse counseling and related social services in a public or certified private welfare or health agency. The work experience should be equivalent to working two (2) years as a Substance Abuse Specialist I with Trinity County.

Special Requirements:

Possession of, or ability to obtain, an appropriate valid California Driver's License.

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST