NUTRITIONIST IV

NATURE AND VARIETY OF WORK

This is supervisory and administrative work involving responsibility for planning, implementing and evaluating nutrition services for the Health Department. Incumbents in this class, working under the general supervision of a higher level administrator, provide continuous assessment of nutritional needs of citizens. Incumbents recommend/implement educational programs of nutrition services to promote good health and to control and prevent diseases caused by dietary deficiencies. Work, which is performed according to established Health Department policies and procedures, requires initiative and resourcefulness in researching trends and patterns and interpretation of considerable data in planning and coordinating overall nutrition services. Work is evaluated through conferences and written reports in terms of the effectiveness in meeting program objectives.

EXAMPLES OF WORK (ILLUSTRATIVE ONLY)

Exercises the full range of supervisory duties and responsibilities over subordinate positions as defined in Section 16-102(59) of the Personnel Law.

Plans, implements and evaluates the nutrition education component of any of a variety of programs.

Coordinates and ensures continuity of program services.

Reviews client program certification forms and verifies nutritional risk criteria for authorization into the applicable program.

Provides supervision to nutrition staff and advises them on difficult nutrition problems.

Assesses the nutritional status of program clients, from available health records and nutrition interviews, to determine service needs.

Plans, prepares and provides nutrition education training for, and monitors and evaluates delivery of nutrition education to clients by program staff.

Evaluates the effectiveness of the nutrition program and makes recommendations as to new services, policies or procedures needed.

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Prepares and/or supervises the preparation of statistical reports relating to program activities.

Acts as liaison between the nutrition unit and specialized program officials.

Conducts and participates in the development of studies and surveys concerning the relationship between dietary factors in health and disease.

KNOWLEDGES, SKILLS AND ABILITIES AND OTHER CHARACTERISTICS

Extensive knowledge of the basic principles of public health nutrition and current developments in the field.

Extensive knowledge of food and nutrition theories and practices.

Extensive knowledge of the techniques of nutrition education and counseling.

Extensive knowledge of the interrelationships of social, cultural and economic factors as they affect dietary customs.

Ability to create and direct a comprehensive nutrition program.

Ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing.

Ability to supervise and train other health care professionals.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Graduation from a college or university with a Bachelor's Degree in Nutrition or Dietetics; plus three (3) years of experience in the field of community nutrition, one (1) year of which must have included supervisory responsibility; or an equivalent combination of education and experience.

CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT

Possession of a current valid license to practice dietetics issued by the Maryland State Board of Dietetic Practice.

Possession of a valid motor vehicle operator's license when required for job-related duties.

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