
MARRIAGE AND FAMILY/THERAPIST INTERN

Definition:

Under the supervision of a licensed Marriage and Family Therapist or appropriately licensed psychologist, provides therapy services to students and families as part of an Individual Education Plan (IEP) service or other program defined by the Office; provides consultation and inservice to families and staff in the area of mental health.

Distinguishing Characteristics:

Maintains strict confidentiality while providing direct therapy services to students and families to support students' mental health needs; maintains regular contact with supervisors per licensing requirements; inservices and consults with staff about optimizing and supporting students' mental health.

Supervision Exercised and Received:

Works under the administrative and evaluative supervision of Principal or Assistant Principal.

Examples of Duties and Responsibilities:

Duties and responsibilities may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Conducts pre and post assessment related to emotional health needs;
- Meets with parents to explain services and obtain consent;
- Provides direct therapy services to students and parents;
- Consults with teachers, school psychologists, administrators and other school staff regarding students' social-emotional needs related to education;
- Supports "wrap around" services (family and community based support services) for identified students and families with a variety of community agencies;
- Provides written reports of services within bounds of confidentiality regulations;
- Provide training for staff and/or parents in the area of mental health;
- Provides specific training and consultation to individual classroom teachers to support students;
- Expends Office funds to make purchases of assessment and therapeutic equipment required to perform duties;
- Acts as part of an IEP team including providing information about a student's current levels of performance and making suggestions for appropriate goals and objectives within the area of expertise;
- Communicates with other agencies including: Mental Health, Public Health, Regional Center and Social Services to help coordinate services;
- Maintains all requirements of MFT internships; and
- Performs related duties as assigned.

Employment Standards:

Knowledge of:

- Professional and ethical standards and practices;
- Appropriate therapeutic approaches for identified student groups;
- General understanding of child development;
- Needs of special education students;
- Community agencies and resources for referral;
- Safe work practices.

Ability to:

- Work with a wide range of socio-economic and ethnic groups;
- Work with a supervisor to determine best practices and therapeutic approaches;
- Communicate clearly in written and oral formats;
- Work as part of a team making decisions and recommendations for student services and support;

- Establish effective working relationships with staff, district personnel, other agencies and the public;
- Respond promptly to requests of internal and external clients; provide needed information, assistance, training, materials, and resources;
- Plan, organize and prioritize own work to meet deadlines and accomplish tasks within established timelines, including maintaining accurate records and files;
- Maintain orderly work environment and perform tasks in a prescribed and safe manner;
- Establish and maintain cooperative working relationships with those contacted during performance of job duties;
- Maintain and improve professional skills and knowledge;
- Be flexible and receptive to change
- Understand and apply principles, techniques and procedures required for effective job performance.

Education and Experience:

Any combination of education and experience that would likely provide the knowledge and abilities is qualifying. A typical way to obtain the knowledge and abilities would be:

Education:

- Masters Degree from accredited college or university in the field of marriage and family counseling and/or all academic preparation required for internship as defined by state licensing requirements for MFT interns.
- Must be currently working towards the fulfillment of intern hours under the supervision of appropriately licensed MFT or psychologist licensed per the State of California's requirements for supervision of MFT interns.
- Formal or informal education or training that ensures the ability to read and write at a level necessary for successful job performance.

Experience:

- Some experience with the special education population is highly desirable.

Other Requirements:

- Must be fingerprinted and a satisfactory Department of Justice records check must be received by SCOE, prior to employment.
- TB testing will be required upon employment.
- Must pass a pre-employment physical (if applicable).
- Must have normal vision, corrected or uncorrected.
- May be required to obtain first aid and CPR certificates within the first 6-12 months of employment.
- May be required to drive with or without students; some positions may require a current California driver license, proof of insurance, and possible participation in the DMV Pull Notice Program once employed.