

SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST INTERN

Definition:

Under the general supervision of a certificated school psychologist and the general direction of the Director of Special Education, provide psychological services to schools, including testing, counseling and consulting to assist in meeting the social, emotional and educational needs of students in regular and special education programs being serviced by the Sonoma County Office of Education

Distinguishing Characteristics:

- Administer and interpret psychological assessments of students;
- Prepare recommendations regarding the evaluation and placements of students;
- Consult with teachers, administrators, specialists, agency and district personnel and parents; counsel students; coordinate behavior management programs.

Supervision Exercised and Received:

General direction is provided by a school psychologist and the Director of the Special Education department.

Examples of Duties and Responsibilities:

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

- Provide psycho-educational assessments of students for districts and programs and participate in resulting Individual Educational Program (IEP) meetings;
- Interpret psycho-educational assessment results;
- Develop student goals and objectives;
- Facilitate IEP meetings, as required;
- Provide written reports analyzing, interpreting and summarizing test results, observations and information from school personnel, students and parents;
- Act as liaison between public and private agencies and county programs;
- Develop, coordinate and provide inservice training to staff, parents, agency and district personnel;
- Maintain professional competencies in areas of responsibility;
- Maintain contact with and participate in professional job related organizations and serve as a liaison to professional groups;
- Perform related duties as assigned.

Employment Standards:

Knowledge of:

- Federal and state laws, codes, regulations and requirements pertaining to areas of assigned responsibility for regular and special education;
- Principles, practices, methods and strategies applicable to special education curriculum development and strategies for implementation;
- Psychological and educational techniques, tests, materials, methods, theories and trends in assessment and identifying a typical student learning and behavior characteristic.

Ability to:

- Counsel students and parents in individual and group situations;
- Select and apply appropriate assessment instruments and methods of assessment;
- Write coherent and comprehensive psychological reports;
- Communicate effectively both orally and in writing;
- Establish effective working relationships with staff, district personnel, other agencies and the public;

- Be flexible and receptive to change;
- Adapt to periodic heavy work load;
- Maintain regular and reliable attendance.

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:

- A Bachelor of Arts Degree from an accredited college or university with an emphasis in educational psychology or closely related field;
- One (1) year of fieldwork in an accredited School Psychologist Program.

Experience:

- At least one (1) year experience as a trainee in a school district, using appropriate psycho/ educational assessments;
- A background or experience/interest working with emotionally disturbed and/or severely handicapped students.

Credentials:

- Eligible to apply for an intern credential by meeting the education/experience requirements above;

Work Environment:

The following conditions may be present:

- Walking on uneven ground when outdoors;
- Exposure to student illness, injuries, infections and bodily fluids;
- May be exposed to chemicals contained in cleaning products;
- May be required to maneuver into awkward positions.

Other Requirements:

- Must be fingerprinted and a satisfactory Department of Justice records check must be received by SCOPE, prior to employment.
- TB testing will be required upon employment.
- Must pass a pre-employment physical (if applicable).
- 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 drivers license, proof of insurance, and possible participation in the DMV Pull Notice Program once employed.