

Washington State Department of Personnel
Class Specification

FORENSIC THERAPIST 3

352Q

Adopted May 12, 2011; Abolished Effective May 13, 2011

Definition:

Directs and has overall responsibility for a major program function of a mental health hospital treatment center for court-committed sexual or mentally ill offenders, such as care and custody, diagnosis, community and volunteer relations, consultation and training, program evaluation. Directs a treatment unit comprised of two or more Forensic Therapist 2's; or directs, administers, and supervises a special legal offender project.

Typical Work:

Supervises a program-wide function; develops standards, procedures, and policies relevant to function; trains and supervises personnel relative to it;

Designs, develops, and directs consultation or training services for law enforcement, correctional, or other professional persons in community or institutional settings relevant to the evaluation and treatment of legal offenders;

Designs, develops and conducts a program evaluation or research program on the personality dynamics of offenders, treatment techniques, program design or effectiveness;

Supervises and directs the overall operations of a unit composed of several offender groups within the center, coordinates the various staff functions and roles to deliver program services within such unit;

Guides and directs one group of offenders in individual and group psychotherapy; supervises inpatient, work-release, outpatient and marital treatment groups; conducts individual group therapy sessions for offenders or married couples;

Participates in program-wide clinical and administrative meetings; represents a unit or specialized program-wide function in such meetings;

Performs other related work as required.

Knowledge and Abilities:

Knowledge of: current psychological, psychiatric, and social evaluation and treatment techniques; special knowledge of diagnostic and treatment procedures with the legal offender; good working knowledge of supervisory and administrative procedures and techniques; special knowledge in one of the several specialized center functions such as psychological or social research, staff development and training, treatment method and techniques; hospital and community resources.

Ability to: organize, direct and evaluate the operations in major program area, such as staff development and training or consultation, program evaluation or research; supervise, instruct, and evaluate personnel, provide therapeutic and supervisory leadership.

Legal Requirement(s):

There may be instances where individual positions must have additional licenses or certification. It is the employer's responsibility to ensure the appropriate licenses/certifications are obtained for each position.

Desirable Qualifications:

A Doctorate in Psychiatry, Psychology, Sociology, Social Work, Occupational Therapy, Criminology, or Law Enforcement and three years of experience with juvenile or adult offenders, or the mentally ill, including one year of qualified group therapy experience and one year of supervisory experience.

OR

A Master's degree in Psychology, Sociology, Social Work, Occupational Therapy, Criminology, or Law Enforcement and five years of clinical experience with juvenile or adult offenders, or the mentally ill, including one year of qualified group psychotherapy experience and one year of supervisory experience.

Note: For specific programs, specialized training and/or experience may be required for eligibility for examination or appointment.

Class Specification History:

New class Effective October 12, 1971

Revised February 15, 1974

General revision, revises definition and minimum qualifications

Revised October 11, 1985

Revises definition and minimum qualifications, title change (formerly Therapy Supervisor 3)

Revised May 9, 1986

Revises definition

New class code: (formerly 36450) effective July 1, 2007