

## CLASS SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST

### DEFINITION

The School Psychologist is a credentialed professional with specialized knowledge regarding social, emotional, cognitive, physical, language, academic, and psychomotor forces in children which affect the learning process. One of the essential means for achieving positive change in the child is through the use of advanced intervention, prevention, and follow-up techniques and processes as provided by professionally trained psychologists.

The primary objective is the application of this specialized knowledge to ameliorate school related problems and to facilitate learning and development. The School Psychologist provides services to children, parents, teachers, administrators, paraprofessional staff, community agencies and the school system through a variety of special, unique methods. The professional work of the School Psychologist is under the direction of the Supervisor, Psychological and School Social Work Services.

### QUALIFICATIONS

Credential: Possession of a standard designated services credential with specialization in pupil personnel services, or credential of equivalent authorization, issued by the California State Board of Education, and authorizing services as a school psychologist.

and

Education: A master's degree with a major in psychology or counseling from an approved institution is required.

and

Experience: While no experience is required beyond the internship of supervised field experience required for the above credential, preference will be given to applicants who have served as psychologist, psychometrist, counselor, or teacher in a public school district, and/or have an educational psychologist license. Professional experience in counseling centers or in working with emotionally disturbed or physically or neurologically handicapped children will warrant priority consideration.

### TYPICAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- \_\_\_\_\_ 1. Recognizes cultural, ethnic, and language variations in the selection and use of appropriate diagnostic tools designed to assist in formulating enrichment, prevention and remediation processes for children. Acting in the capacity of the child's advocate, monitors the ethical and appropriate use of designated assessment instruments for the welfare of the individual child.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 2. Provides for psychoeducational assessment and diagnosis of specific learning, emotional, and behavioral disabilities, including, but not limited to, case study evaluation, recommendations for remediation or placement, other pertinent psychoeducational interventions, and periodic reevaluation of children.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 3. Provides input and recommendations to designated committees involved in program planning, curriculum development, placement and prescreening.
- \_\_\_\_\_ 4. Provides psychological counseling and other therapeutic techniques for children and parents including parent education.

# SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST

## TYPICAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES (Continued)

- \_\_\_ 5. Provides referral and consultation services to and with community agencies. May serve as liaison between the school, the family, and the selected community resource when therapeutic, academic, and/or social services are provided.
- \_\_\_ 6. Consults with school administrators in regard to appropriate learning objectives for children, planning of developmental and remedial programs for pupils in regular and special school programs, and the development of educational experimentation and evaluation.
- \_\_\_ 7. Consults with teachers in the development and implementation of classroom methods and procedures designed to facilitate pupil learning and to overcome learning and behavior disorders.
- \_\_\_ 8. Provides consultation with parents to assist in understanding the learning and adjustment processes of children.
- \_\_\_ 9. Provides for consultation with pupil service specialists.
- \_\_\_ 10. Provides supervision of students from the graduate school of school psychology who are fulfilling internship or field experience requirements.
- \_\_\_ 11. Participates in case conferences, coordinates case information and works cooperatively with other representatives of pupil services.
- \_\_\_ 12. Participates in the development of new programs.
- \_\_\_ 13. Participates in appropriate inservice training to district staff.
- \_\_\_ 14. Demonstrates and maintains an acceptable level of professional ethics and competence in the field of school psychology.

## WORK SCHEDULE AND SALARY

A Psychologist is assigned to work-vacation schedule group "D-3," which requires 15 extra days of service during the summer vacation and one-half the weekdays, excluding legal holidays, during Christmas vacation.