

DESERT SANDS UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT
Classified Personnel Services

Classification:
Employment Category:

MENTAL HEALTH THERAPIST
Management/Supervisory

Salary Range: 25
FLSA Designation: Exempt

Job Summary:

To provide therapeutic mental health services to eligible students and their families with an active Individual Education Program.

Essential Job Functions:

- **Provide** direct mental health services including individual, group and family therapy.
- **Provide** parenting classes.
- **Provide** counseling services in crisis situation and assist with district crisis response team.
- **Complete** appropriate Medi-Cal billing.
- **Creates** treatment plans and updates them as appropriate.
- **Maintain** on-going contact with parents and special education case manager.
- **Collects** and maintains mental health information and student outcomes data to be used for monitoring the overall performance and effectiveness of services provided.
- **Maintain** appropriate records such as frequency of visits, treatment notes.
- **Ability** to supervise MFT-Interns.
- **Coordinates** with other staff members (e.g. teacher, aides, behavior specialist, etc.) and other community agencies (if present) in designing and carrying out treatment plans.
- **Participates** in Individual Education Plan meetings.
- **Prepares** reports to IEP team as required to develop present levels of performance.
- **Writes** IEP goals as they relate to mental health services.
- **Other** duties as assigned.

Other Job Functions:

- **Assists** other personnel as may be required for the purpose of supporting them in the completion of their work activities.
- **Attends** various meetings and conferences for the purpose of providing and/or gathering information.

Essential Job Requirements – Qualifications:

- **Skills, Knowledge and/or Abilities Required:**
 - Individual Education Program process
 - Mental health needs of children and adolescents with disabilities
 - Individual, group, family, and collateral therapy skills
 - Special education and public school system in California
 - Residential Treatment programs
 - Law and ethics of therapy, including child abuse reporting laws
 - Psychosocial assessment
 - Effective written and verbal communication skills
 - Work effectively with multi-cultural populations
 - Supervision of interns
 - Work effectively with education staff
- **Physical Requirements:** Employees in this classification stand, walk, sit, use fingers repetitively, use wrists or hands repetitively in a twisting motion or while applying pressure, use both hands simultaneously, have rapid mental/muscular coordination, lift moderately heavy objects up to 15 lbs; good speaking and hearing abilities; bending at the waist, kneeling and crouching; reaching overhead, above the shoulders and horizontally; stooping; ascending and descending stairs; sitting for long periods at a desk and in front of a computer.
- **Work Environment:** Employees in this classification work inside with exposure to minor contagious illnesses (colds, flu, etc.) in direct contact with the public and other District staff, without direct guidance from supervisor, with a high volume of work and tight deadlines, continuous changing priorities and interruptions. May require exposure to extreme weather conditions for moderate periods of time. Other atmospheric conditions include Fumes/Odors: Copier and copier products; paper dust generated from the use of paper goods, dust, etc.
- **Education and Training Required:** Master's degree in marriage, family, and child counseling, marriage and family therapy, couple and family therapy, psychology, clinical psychology, counseling psychology, or counseling with an emphasis in either marriage, family, and child counseling or marriage and family therapy. At least 5 years of successful experience in working with children, adolescents and their families required; Experience in working in the education and special education fields; Bilingual (Spanish-English) preferred.
- **Licenses, Certifications and Testing Required:**
 - Fingerprint/criminal justice clearance.
 - Tuberculosis clearance.
 - Must possess or have the ability to obtain a valid California driver's license.
 - Valid licensed to practice mental health therapy in California (e.g. Licensed Clinical Social Worker, Marriage and Family Therapist, Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor, or Licensed Psychologist)
 - Pro-Act trained