

Category: 1710
Exc. Qual. Std.: 08
Approved Dec.18, 1984
Authorization P.L. 95-561

DIAGNOSTICIAN/PSYCHOMETRIST

CATEGORICAL PAY LEVEL:

Minimum Level: 04
Maximum Level: 05

DESCRIPTION OF WORK:

Under the mandate of Federal Law, P.L. 94-142 and the Bureau of Indian Affairs State Plan for the delivery of special education service, the Diagnostician/School Psychometrist will be given the responsibility for conducting psychoeducational diagnosis as determined appropriate for each of the students referred for evaluation. Psychoeducational diagnosis of referred children made by this individual will help determine the special needs of children and the subsequent educational services required. The diagnostician will recommend exceptional label (the most prominent condition as identified in P.L. 94-142, 121a5) subsequent special education services and appropriate remedial and compensatory services to the Education Placement Committee. Subsequent Individual Education Plans will be developed from the information provided. Implementing these responsibilities will involve administration of psychometric/psychoeducational batteries of tests and preparation of psychoeducational reports. Such reports will address the areas mandated by P.L. 94-142. Observation of students in the school situation and interpretation of reports are essential to the work.

LEVELS OF RESPONSIBILITIES:

Level 04: At this level, the Diagnostician/School Psychometrist will administer and score a variety of objective tests and, under close supervision, may administer and interpret projective tests. Incumbent will plan his/her own work and follow established techniques in its accomplishment. Psychoeducational diagnosis and proposed courses of action are reviewed in detail by a higher credentialed employee (i.e. a school psychologist) for completeness, adequacy of planning, appropriateness of methods and techniques, and appropriateness of conclusions and recommendations.

Level 05: At this level, the Diagnostician/School Psychometrist will use the full range of diagnostic/psychometric tests for assessment and will employ generally accepted techniques. The level carries full professional responsibility for the work performed and the results achieved. Incumbents are professionally responsible for the application of standard and accepted testing theories, methods, techniques and practices for accuracy and reliability of data obtained, interpretation of tests and reports, and for recommendations made to placement committees. A full range of remedial and related services would be suggested at this level.

BASIC EXPERIENCE AND EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS:

Pay Level:	04	05
Education:	Master's Degree	Master's Degree
Experience (years):	1	2

At the 04 level, the education and experience requirements will include a minimum of a Master's Degree with twelve or more semester hours in psychoeducational diagnosis, including six semester hours of individual intellectual assessment and interpretation and a documented practicum. In addition, the candidate must have either one (1) year of actual classroom teaching in a special education setting, one (1) year of diagnostic testing experience or one (1) year of guidance and counseling experience.

At the Level 05, the education and experience requirements would include a minimum of a Master's Degree with a major or emphasis in psychoeducational diagnosis, including twelve semester hours of individual intellectual assessment and a documented practicum. In addition, the candidate must have one (1) year of actual classroom teaching in a special education setting, and one (1) year of either diagnostic testing experience or guidance and counseling experience; or two (2) years of actual classroom teaching in a special education setting, or two (2) years of either diagnostic testing experience or guidance and counseling experience.

Classroom teaching in a special education setting may be substituted for guidance and counseling experience but not for the diagnostic testing experience.

At both the 04 and 05 levels, the candidate must have twelve (12) semester hours in special education or school psychology; e.g. , courses in emotional disturbance, learning disabilities, gifted and talented, mental handicapped, tests and measurements.

In some states, an earned Education Specialist (6-year program approved by National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education), including practicum would meet the same criteria as the Master's Degree requirement.

The psychoeducational Diagnostician and/or Psychometrist will also meet the certification standards for the State in which the position is located. Emergency and provisional certification issued by the State certification authority will be accepted as meeting state standards so long as the certification is valid.

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS:

Good distant vision in one eye and ability to read without strain printed material the size of typewritten characters are required, glasses permitted. Ability to hear the conversational voice, with or without a hearing aid, is required; except that some positions may be suitable for persons who are blind or deaf. In most instances, an amputation of arm, hand, leg or foot will not disqualify an applicant for appointment although it may be necessary that this condition be compensated by use of satisfactory prosthesis. In addition, applicants must possess emotional and mental stability.