Iowa Department of Administrative Services – Human Resources Enterprise
Classification Series Guidelines

Psychologist Series

Classes in the Series

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Series Concept

Positions in this series provide counseling and psychological services in the science dealing with the mind and with mental and emotional processes, and human behavior. Employees perform psychological assessments, behavioral analysis and evaluation, and counseling for residents of facilities for children and adolescents, persons with intellectual disabilities or mental illness, and incarcerated individuals of correctional institutions. They provide information and assistance to staff in areas of psychological theory and practice. Positions in this series require educational preparation, clinical experience, and may require professional licensure as a psychologist.

Exclusions

Positions performing correctional rehabilitative work, social services, activities therapy, nursing services or related assistance for incarcerated individuals of correctional institutions, or residents of facilities for children, adolescents, persons with intellectual disabilities or mental illness, are assigned to classes for these functional areas (e.g., Correctional Counselor, Activities Specialist, Registered Nurse, and Social Worker).

Class Distinctions

Psychologist 1

In a training capacity, positions perform entry-level psychological assessments (which may include diagnostic interviewing, gathering of history, and some screening), evaluation of mental health needs, behavior modification/management, or limited counseling in state facilities.

Psychologist 2

Positions provide journey-level professional therapeutic services to persons with mental disorders in a state mental health, juvenile retention, intellectual disability, long-term care, or correctional program. Work includes psychological assessments (which may include diagnostic interviewing, gathering of history, and some screening), evaluation of mental health needs, behavior modification/management, or counseling. They may participate in the clinical guidance of psychology students under the auspices of a higher-level psychologist.

In correctional institutions, positions at this level do not lead therapeutic groups, administer psychological testing, or have individual oversight of a specialized treatment program or mental health unit.
Psychologist Series

**Psychologist 3**

Positions in the Department of Human Services or Iowa Veterans Home are designated by the facility as an authoritative source for staff facility-wide in key areas that affect most residents. These areas include testing and evaluation, behavioral modification/management, diagnostic-evaluation and intake, or clinical supervision and oversight of other psychologists and staff providing clinical guidance for college psychology students affiliating with the state facility.

In correctional institutions, positions at this level administer psychological testing, oversee a specialized treatment program or mental health unit, develop and facilitate therapeutic groups, provide mental health training and education to multi-disciplinary staff, and provide clinical direction and crisis intervention to incarcerated individuals and staff.

*Effective date: 11/18 SA*