

## **LINN COUNTY CLASSIFICATION**

**TITLE: PUBLIC HEALTH LACTATION CONSULTANT**

**NUMBER: 744**

**Approval Order**

**PAY RANGE: 16**

**Number: 2005-307**

**CATEGORY: SEIU**

**Date: June 7, 2005**

GENERAL STATEMENT OF DUTIES/JOB OBJECTIVES: Provide breast-feeding support and education to clients and staff served by the Linn County Department of Health Services, Public Health Program and other health care providers in Linn County.

SUPERVISION RECEIVED: Works under the general supervision of the Public Health Program Manager and/or clinical supervisor. Work is reviewed in progress and upon completion for accuracy, quality, and quantity. The work is performed with considerable independence in accordance with established rules, regulations and department standards.

SUPERVISION EXERCISED: Supervision of employees is not a responsibility of this position; however, may be required to direct activities of less experienced personnel and volunteers in clinical services.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS: A person employed in this classification must possess the capability to perform the following duties to be considered for and to remain in this position. The duties are essential functions requiring the critical skills and expertise needed to meet job objectives. Additional specific details of these essential functions may be provided by the specific office or department job announcement, if applicable.

1. Possess the skills, knowledge, and attitudes to provide competent comprehensive consultation and education in routine and special lactation circumstances, from preconception to beyond twelve months.
2. Utilize knowledge of different counseling styles based on personality types when providing breastfeeding support integrating cultural, psychosocial, nutritional, and pharmacological aspects of breastfeeding into lactation consultant practice.
3. Utilize appropriate communication skills in interactions with health care providers and clients maintaining a collaborative, supportive relationship with clients, emphasizing individualized family care, client autonomy, informed decision making, and optimal health care.
4. Act as an advocate for breastfeeding in the community, workplace, and within the health care professions.
5. Utilize adult learning principles when providing educational experiences for clients, health care providers, and the community.
6. Function and contribute as a member of the health care team, provide follow-up plans, and make appropriate referrals to other health care providers and community support resources.

7. Follow a professional Code of Ethics, local laws and codes, and maintain appropriate standards of hygiene. Observe the guidelines for health workers outlined in the WHO International Code of Marketing of Breast-milk Substitutes.
8. Maintain and enhance knowledge and skills with appropriate and regular continuing education. Interpret current research findings to determine appropriateness for application to practice.
9. Develop and maintain effective, harmonious and reasonable work relationships with others.
10. Maintain regular and predictable work attendance.

OTHER FUNCTIONS: This classification description covers the most significant essential functions performed by an employee in this position, but it does not include other occasional work, which may be similar to, related to, or a logical assignment for the position.

RECRUITING REQUIREMENTS: (Additional specific details may be provided by the specific office or department job announcement, if applicable.)

Knowledge, Skill and Ability: Must possess considerable knowledge of the principles and practices of lactation in order to facilitate professional education to staff, patients, and families. Ability to listen, empathize and respond to patient, family, internal and external partners needs, and the ability to work independently within the defined guidelines of the job classification.

Experience, Education and Training: Graduation from a senior high school required. Graduation from an approved school of nursing or a baccalaureate degree from accredited college or University in Health, Nutrition, Nursing or related field of study preferred.

Necessary Special Qualifications: Certification from International Board Certified Lactation Consultant (IBCLE) examiners required. If an RN, must possess a valid license to practice nursing in the State of Oregon. Possession of a valid motor vehicle operator's license and an acceptable driving record at the time of appointment may be a condition of employment.

PHYSICAL DEMANDS AND WORK ENVIRONMENT: Work is generally performed indoors in multiple offices or clinic settings. Work involves travel to various community agencies and schools throughout the County. Work involves a significant amount of locomotion, including operation of a motor vehicle and movement from the vehicle to the office, clinic, community agency or school. Requirements include the ability to see, talk and hear, sit, stand and walk, bend and stoop; use hands to handle or operate objects, tools or controls, including use of a computer keyboard; reach with hands and arms and lift or move thirty (30) pounds. Have sufficient visual acuity to read scales, measuring boards, obtain capillary blood samples, read hemocue machine. Work may involve potential exposure to blood products, cleaning materials and loud noises.