

Vacancy Announcement

Physician Specialist – Field Based Substance Use Services

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Health is seeking a candidate with strong clinical and consultative skills to join the Substance Abuse Prevention and Control Bureau's ([SAPC's](#)) interdisciplinary team to provide field-based substance use services in Los Angeles County.

SAPC is responsible for leading and facilitating the delivery of a full spectrum of prevention, harm reduction, treatment, and recovery services via one of the largest specialty substance use provider networks in the country. With an annual operating budget of over \$750 million and over 550 staff positions, SAPC manages a network of approximately 150 provider agencies spread out over 400 sites across the County, including over 40 agencies within the prevention provider network and 12 contracted harm reduction syringe services program agencies that serve approximately 275,000 LA County residents each year.

Expanding SAPC's scope of field based services is a top priority for the Department of Public Health and a recent [Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors Motion](#) positioned SAPC to recruit and establish a team to deliver directly operated field-based services to enhance the SUD capabilities of the County's current field-based multidisciplinary teams. The Physician Specialists on this team will play a crucial role in providing addiction medicine services and consultation that are core to this purpose.

POSITION SUMMARY

The Physician Specialist on SAPC's Field Based Substance Use Services Team is a clinical addiction medicine role involving the provision of medical and clinical support services and collaboration with other SAPC team members on field-based clinical assignments. These assignments include the delivery of consultation, training, and technical assistance for LA County's existing multidisciplinary teams, street medicine providers, and street psychiatry programs to improve access to clinically appropriate substance use services for LA County residents experiencing homelessness in the largest and one of the most diverse counties in the nation.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

Key functions of the Physician Specialist on SAPC's Field Based Substance Use Services Team include applying clinical addiction medicine knowledge and skills in the performance of duties that include:

- Provide medical services as a physician member of SAPC's Field-Based Substance Use Services Team, including but not limited to assessment, diagnosis, and medication services including, but not limited to, addiction medications;
- Provide case consultation, technical assistance, and teaching responsive to the needs of the various existing field-based workforce serving LA County residents experiencing homelessness;
- Cultivate and sustain partnerships with the existing field-based programs operating in LA County, including but not limited to, LA County multidisciplinary teams, providers of field-based mental health services, providers of field-based substance use and harm reduction services, and street medicine teams, for the purpose of enhancing the delivery of substance use services to LA County residents served by these programs;

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- Provide clinical oversight to the other SAPC's Field-Based Substance Use Services Team members to ensure that appropriate resources and care – including but not limited to substance use treatment, overdose prevention and response, and harm reduction – are available both directly via SAPC's field-based teams or through referral to appropriate community-based programs;
- Ensure compliance with all regulatory (e.g., DMC-ODS, CalAIM) and confidentiality (e.g., 42 CFR Part 2, HIPAA) requirements, and document all services within the designated record in accordance with establishing clinical standards and follow established policies and procedures within scope of practice; conduct self-assessment of performance; comply with licensing and accreditation standards and other regulatory requirements; and interpret and support standards and requirements to others, as needed;
- Complete other duties and performance expectations as needed in accordance with departmental needs, class specifications, or County Work Plan.

Los Angeles County offers its employees a comprehensive and competitive benefits package. Starting salary for the position is dependent on qualifications, specialty, and salary history.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

- **OPTION I:** If assigned to a specialty: Completion of a residency and certification via a medical board approved by an American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) or equivalent training **-AND-** One year of experience in medical practice, post graduate training, teaching or investigative work.
- **OPTION II:** If not assigned to an ABMS specialty: One year of experience in medical practice, post-graduate training, teaching or investigative work.

DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS

- Clinical experience treating substance use disorders with addiction medications; board certification as an addiction physician specialist is desirable but not required.
- Experience working with people experiencing homelessness.
- Outstanding organizational, written, and verbal communication skills.

HOW TO APPLY

If you are interested in this position, please submit a cover letter and resume to Hugo Viramontes at hviramontes@ph.lacounty.gov **AND** complete an application for the Physician Specialist exam at Health Services ([Exam No. Y5476E](#)) at governmentjobs.com/careers/lacounty (if you are not already on the list of physicians eligible for Physician Specialist). Note that the online application is for physicians filling various positions in the County but does not include information specific to this position.

For more information about this position, please contact Brian Hurley, Medical Director at the Department of Public Health Substance Abuse Prevention and Control at bhurley@ph.lacounty.gov.

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