



## Los Angeles County Department of Human Resources

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### ***Class Specification:* HEALTH EDUCATOR**

**ITEM NUMBER:** 4848

**APPROVAL DATE:** 06/11/2007

#### **DEFINITION:**

Plans, implements, directs, coordinates, and evaluates community health education programs in a specific health subject within an assigned service planning area.

#### **CLASSIFICATION STANDARDS:**

Positions allocable to this class function under the administrative direction of a Health Education Coordinator, Senior Health Educator, Area Health Officer, Medical Director, Program Director, Division Head, Nurse Manager, or a chief of a hospital service with consultation available from the Health Education Coordinator of the Health Administration staff. Incumbents plan, develop, implement and evaluate health education programs and activities designed to motivate individuals and groups to modify or maintain behaviors that promote optimum health and personal safety. Such activities include determination of community health education needs and problems, and establishing priorities in planning and developing health education programs for the solution of such problems. Timelines are established in terms of goals to be achieved, and methods of implementation are left to the discretion of the worker within established program and professional guidelines. Positions may consult with Health Education Administration staff for technical assistance in any of the specialized programs of health education including sexually transmitted diseases, lead poisoning prevention, tobacco control, maternal, child, and adolescent health, and bioterrorism/emergency preparedness.

#### ***EXAMPLES OF DUTIES:***

Determines community needs for public health education programs through investigation and evaluation of factors such as available health resources, communication systems, political and socio-cultural influences, housing, and the levels of income and education of the service planning area residents.

Establishes priorities for the solution of community health education problems by planning and developing public health education programs through the application of health education methods and procedures, and in collaboration with targeted communities.

Assists community-based organizations, medical providers, schools, public health personnel,

and other County departments in recognizing and evaluating conditions contributing to poor health, planning program activities, selecting and utilizing public and private health resources, and motivating others in the community to lead and participate in improving their health status.

Implements health education programs by utilizing broad ranges of methods and techniques in collaboration with service planning area, county-wide programs, academia, and target communities to meet the public health needs through activities such as developing and disseminating health education materials and speaking to groups on health related topics.

Meets and contacts a variety of community stakeholders such as teachers, community group leaders, health officers, public health nurses, social workers, and others at various levels in the community in order to gain their support and cooperation in planning, promoting, implementing, and evaluating health education programs, and in coordinating their related health education program activities.

Maintains contact with public and private agencies, community organizations, and professional groups to enlist community participation and support for health education activities in a service planning area.

Provides expertise in health education methods by collaborating with service planning area staff to develop and conduct patient health education programs and in-service education programs for service planning area personnel.

Coordinates the volunteer activities within a service planning area by recruiting volunteers, maintaining records of volunteer participation, and coordinating volunteer recognition programs.

Evaluates whether health education programs meet objectives and adequately impact the target population's knowledge, attitudes, beliefs, practices, and behaviors by utilizing appropriate data collection methods such as pre and post-examinations, focus groups, surveys, and questionnaires, and by measuring the attendance at events in response to publicity campaigns and ultimately, the improvement of those conditions among service planning area residents which require the participation of a Health Educator. Refers to evaluation findings and community input for future program planning and policy development.

Evaluates the literacy levels of target population and the appropriateness of resource materials.

Advises Area Health Officers and other administrative staff in program planning, development, implementation, and evaluation of health education priorities for the service planning area.

May oversee the activities of Health Education Assistants or other non-professional staff.

May recruit and oversee undergraduate and graduate health education students for internships

or practicum for a specific program or service planning area.

*MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:*

**TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE:**

California Law requires a Master's Degree from a program of study accredited by the Council on Education for Public Health with specialization in Public Health Education, Community Health Education, or equivalent.

**LICENSE:**

A valid California Class C Driver License or the ability to utilize an alternative method of transportation when needed to carry out job-related essential functions.

**PHYSICAL CLASS:**

2 - Light.