

Class Specifications for the

AUDIOLOGY SERIES

This series includes all classes of positions, the duties of which are to administer, direct, supervise and perform professional work in audiology.

Audiology involves the science which deals with the identification, evaluation, treatment, remediation and prevention of hearing disorders. Audiologists are responsible for providing, improving, evaluating, administering and coordinating services for the identification, study, evaluation and treatment of individuals with disorders in the reception and perception of acoustic signals of speech and language. This is accomplished through such means as audiometric and developmental screening, threshold tests, research programs and demonstrations, diagnostic and direct treatment services. Audiologists assess both the degree and nature of hearing loss, and as specialists in mechanical restorative devices which amplify sound artificially, decide whether remedial measures, such as hearing aids, will be effective.

Audiologists work in rehabilitation centers, hospitals, training centers, schools and other community agencies. The audiologist may work with individuals with one or more types of handicaps such as mental retardation; emotional; orthopedic; neuromuscular; hearing impaired; and sensory motor dysfunction.

Positions in this series work toward rehabilitation of the individual in conjunction with physicians, speech pathologists, social workers, teachers and other school personnel, nurses, psychologists, families, other therapists and persons in allied fields.

This series of classes encompasses direct service, consultant and supervisory positions performing work in audiology. The levels of classes are distinguished on the basis of the nature and extent of supervision received; and/or the scope and variety of operations supervised as indicated by volume, type and intensity of services offered.

Policies and procedures of the department and division, texts, journals and other periodicals are often referred to as references for the audiologist. Relying on judgment and knowledge, the audiologist may frequently research and experiment with new techniques and/or approaches.

AUDIOLOGIST II

8F.342

Duties Summary:

Under immediate supervision, evaluates and treats a variety of hearing disorders, conducts tests; and performs other related duties as assigned.

Distinguishing Characteristics:

A position at this level works under the immediate supervision of a higher level audiologist and involves responsibility for planning and providing for direct diagnostic and/or therapeutic audiological services for individuals with hearing disorders, subject to technical assistance and supervision. Routine decisions pertaining to treatment and programs may be made by a position in this class.

At this level, contacts are with patients, pediatricians, otologists, physicians, speech pathologists, psychologists, social workers, teachers, other therapists, persons in allied fields and the general public. These contacts are primarily for the purposes of consultation, conference, evaluation and treatment.

Examples of Duties:

Under immediate supervision, designs and conducts aural rehabilitation programs; teaches speech-reading and counsels hearing impaired patients about the causes and limitations of hearing disorders; performs audiological testing; attends clinics and conferences; instructs clients and parents on use and care of hearing aids, and other similar communications device.

Knowledge and Abilities Required:

Knowledge of: The principles and practices of audiology; various kinds of hearing disorders, their causes and treatment; anatomy; physiology; etiology and basic sciences in the area of communication disorders; child growth and development, and the physical and emotional problems of handicapped children; community resources; current development and trends in audiology.

Ability to: Effectively treat patients with hearing disorders; administer and interpret a variety of tests designed to evaluate hearing disorders; use various audiometric equipment; prepare reports; maintain records and data; deal effectively with patients and other individuals and groups.

AUDIOLOGIST III

8F.343

Duties Summary:

Under general supervision, conducts evaluations and plans for and administers treatment programs pertaining to all varieties of hearing disorders; assists higher level audiologists in planning and developing overall programs; and performs other related duties as assigned.

Distinguishing Characteristics:

A position at this level independently provides for audiological evaluations and/or treatment for the full range of cases involving such disorders. A high degree of professional judgment is exercised in determining goals and selecting techniques.

Supervision over the work of the class is provided by a higher level audiologist and is normally received through conferences and reviews of reports. Recommendations which pertain primarily to the treatment and general program area are made to the supervisor and as a member of a diagnostic team.

The personal contacts of a position in this class are with patients, medical personnel, speech pathologists, psychologists, social workers, teachers, other therapists, personnel in allied fields and the general public in such situations as patient treatment, family consultation, etc.

Examples of Duties:

Conducts audiological diagnostic and treatment services; performs audiological procedures designed to identify the range, nature and degree of hearing function; designs and conducts aural rehabilitation training programs to teach speech-reading and to implement hearing conservation measures; attends clinics and conferences; serves on diagnostic teams; provides consultative services to nurses, teachers, etc.; prepares reports; maintains records; may assist in providing diagnostic and treatment services to neighbor island children; may assist in planning statewide audiology programs; may supervise sub-professional personnel.

Knowledge and Abilities Required:

Knowledge of: Principles and practices of audiology; various kinds of hearing disorders, their causes and treatment; anatomy, physiology, etiology and

basic sciences of communications disorders; child growth and development, and the physical and emotional problems of handicapped children; community resources; current developments and trends in audiology.

Ability to: Effectively treat patients with hearing disorders; administer and interpret a variety of tests designed to evaluate hearing disorders; utilize various audiometric equipment; prepare reports; deal effectively with patients and other individuals and groups.

AUDIOLOGIST IV

8F.344

Duties Summary:

Participates in and is responsible for a major content area of the audiology program involving planning, organizing, coordinating and assisting in the conduct of such a program; or as a highly independent and competent worker, provides diagnostic evaluation and/or therapeutic services in audiology under the general supervision of a non-technical supervisor; and performs other related duties as assigned.

Distinguishing Characteristics:

Audiologist positions at this level are generally of two distinct types:

- Type I: Positions working independently under general supervision and responsible for providing a program of services in accordance with a statewide program. This may involve coordinating testing programs, making diagnostic evaluations, coordinating and participating in research projects and offering consultative services. Recommendations pertaining to administrative and technical aspects of the program as well as decisions on treatment areas and routine administrative matters may be made by the incumbent of a position in this class.
- Type II: Positions of this type reflect highly competent and experienced workers whose assignments involve a high degree of independence in their performance. Work primarily involves providing diagnostic evaluations and/or direct services in audiology under a non-technical supervisor and having continuing responsibility for developing and maintaining understanding, sound working relationships and coordination of services with clients,

parents, school officials, physicians, nurses, social workers, other agency personnel, etc. Technically sound recommendations and decisions on diagnostic evaluations and treatment plans are independently made at this level. Initiative in seeking technical consultation, from within and outside the department, rests with the incumbent of a position in this class.

Personal work contacts at this level are the same as with prior levels but is additionally maintained for purposes of organization of rehabilitative and therapeutic programs. Positions in this class may supervise other audiologists and sub-professional positions.

Examples of Duties:

Plans, develops and coordinates various programs; arranges for clinics; provides therapy; consults with personnel in allied fields; administers a variety of hearing assessment instruments and interprets test results in conducting diagnostic evaluation; participates in research projects; provides advisory and consultative services to teachers and other school officials, parents, other therapists and diagnostic team members, etc.; may testify in court to justify diagnostic or treatment procedures or recommendations; may supervise lower level audiologists and others; coordinates and utilizes testing and other services provided by other departments and agencies.

Knowledge and Abilities Required:

Knowledge of: Principles and practices of audiology; various kinds of hearing disorders, their causes and treatment; anatomy, physiology, etiology and basic sciences of communication disorders; child growth, development, and the physical and emotional problems of handicapped children; community resources; current developments and trends in audiology; program policies and procedures.

Ability to: Evaluate and interpret a variety of hearing disorders; prepare reports; maintain records and data; instruct and guide lower level audiologists; deal effectively with patients, individuals, groups and the general public; plan, conduct, and coordinate audiological programs and direct the work of others.

Due to the transfer of authority to the Department of Education to administer its own Civil Service System pursuant to Act 51 Session Laws of Hawaii 2004, this

is an adoption of the class specifications for the Executive Branch Civil Service classes AUDIOLOGIST II, III, IV by the Department of Education Civil Service system.

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Gerald Okamoto
Assistant Superintendent
Office of Human Resources