

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION

CLASS TITLE: YOUTH WORK EXPERIENCE SPECIALIST II

BASIC FUNCTION:

Under the direction of the Project Manager-Youth Development Services, lead and participate in a variety of activities involved in providing identified at-risk youth with vocational assessment, counseling, training, education and placement services to enhance school to career awareness and transition; train and provide work direction and guidance to assigned personnel.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS:

The Youth Work Experience Specialist II is the experienced-level classification in the series. Incumbents work independently, assist the Principal-Student Programs with Program management, and serve as a lead over Youth Work Experience Specialist I's. The Youth Work Experience Specialist I is the entry-level classification in the series. Incumbents work under general supervision and provide at-risk youth with a variety of vocational services.

REPRESENTATIVE DUTIES:

ESSENTIAL DUTIES:

Lead and participate in a variety of activities involved in providing identified at-risk youth with vocational assessment, counseling, training, education and placement services to enhance school to career awareness and transition; monitor, evaluate and adjust activities to meet student needs.

Oversee and assist with coordinating, developing and implementing Youth Development Services operations and daily activities; provide administrative support to the Principal; assist in assuring Program activities comply with established laws, codes, regulations, policies and procedures.

Interview and assess students in the identification of needs, interests and abilities to determine appropriate vocational goals and placement; refer students to programs, potential employers, internships and other opportunities according to needs, interests and abilities.

Train and provide work direction and guidance to assigned personnel; assign employee duties and review work for compliance with established standards, requirements and procedures.

Assist with the development and implementation of Youth Development Services projects, goals, objectives, strategies and services; provide individualized case management for at-risk youth; resolve Program and related vocational issues and conflicts in a proper and timely manner.

Provide technical assistance to students regarding employment opportunities, internships, forms,

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applications and vocational skill development; respond to inquiries and provide technical information concerning related standards, requirements, techniques, practices and procedures.

Serve as a liaison between the County Office, school districts, students, employers and outside agencies regarding vocational services, opportunities and placement; respond to inquiries and provide information concerning related activities, policies, procedures and objectives.

Train and assist students in the development of vocational, job searching, resume and interview skills; assist students in establishing and pursuing goals; develop individual service strategies for students; identify and develop appropriate training sites for students.

Market vocational programs to employers; facilitate worksite agreements; collaborate and establish and maintain partnerships with employers, service providers and others to facilitate and enhance employment opportunities, internships, job shadowing and other vocational services for students.

Monitor and assess student progress and performance; keep supervisors current concerning student progress; assist student with identifying and utilizing vocational strengths; assure students are placed with appropriate employers; confer with employers concerning student performance and progress.

Distribute, collect and process student forms and applications required for vocational services; evaluate student information and determine eligibility; obtain supporting documents as needed; assist students with completing various employment forms and applications.

Monitor budgets for student hours, wages and support services; assist in assuring expenditures do not exceed established limitations; assist in assuring services comply with grant specifications and requirements; process and respond to requests for funding proposals; prepare grant proposals.

Compile and analyze a variety of data related to Youth Development Services and vocational activities; prepare and maintain a variety of narrative and statistical records, reports and files related to students, employers and assigned activities.

Communicate with County Office personnel, students and various outside agencies to exchange information, coordinate activities and resolve issues or concerns.

Operate a variety of office equipment including a copier, fax machine, projector, computer and assigned software; drive a vehicle to conduct work.

Arrange transportation and appropriate work clothing for students as needed.

Attend and participate in various meetings, conferences and in-services and special events; prepare and deliver oral presentations concerning employment and vocational services.

OTHER DUTIES:

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Perform related duties as assigned.

KNOWLEDGE AND ABILITIES:

KNOWLEDGE OF:

Principles, practices and procedures of career and vocational education training programs.
Training and employment opportunities in the community.
Interviewing and advisement techniques including methods for evaluating occupational skills.
Labor market trends and characteristics.
Principles and techniques of vocational guidance and casework.
Diverse academic, socioeconomic, cultural, disability and ethnic backgrounds of students.
Interpersonal skills using tact, patience and courtesy.
Operation of a computer and assigned software.
Principles of training and providing work direction.
Policies and objectives of assigned programs and activities.
Applicable laws, codes, regulations, policies and procedures.
Oral and written communication skills.
Modern office practices, procedures and equipment.
Record-keeping and report preparation techniques.
Basic public relations techniques.

ABILITY TO:

Lead and participate in a variety of activities involved in providing identified at-risk youth with vocational assessment, counseling, training, education and placement services to enhance school to career awareness and transition.
Assist with coordinating, developing and implementing Youth Development Services operations.
Train and provide work direction and guidance to assigned personnel.
Assist students with developing vocational and job searching skills.
Serve as a liaison between the County Office, school districts, students, employers and outside agencies regarding vocational services, opportunities and placement.
Interpret, apply and explain laws, rules, regulations, policies and procedures.
Provide technical assistance to students regarding employment opportunities, internships, forms, applications and vocational skill development.
Establish and maintain partnerships with employers, service providers and others to facilitate and enhance employment opportunities and other vocational services for students.
Identify and evaluate student interests, needs and abilities.
Refer students to potential employers according to needs, interests and abilities.
Monitor and assess student progress.
Operate standard office equipment including a computer and assigned software.
Meet schedules and time lines.
Maintain records and prepare reports.
Communicate effectively both orally and in writing.
Establish and maintain cooperative and effective working relationships with others.

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EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:

Any combination equivalent to: graduation from high school supplemented by college-level course work in business administration, education, psychology or related field and four years increasingly responsible experience working with vocational, instructional or similar programs.

LICENSES AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS:

Valid California driver's license.

WORKING CONDITIONS:

ENVIRONMENT:

Indoor work environment.

Driving a vehicle to conduct work.

PHYSICAL DEMANDS:

Dexterity of hands and fingers to operate a computer keyboard.

Hearing and speaking to exchange information.

Seeing to read a variety of materials.

Sitting or standing for extended periods of time.

Bending at the waist kneeling or crouching.