

## LACTATION CONSULTANT

**GRADE: 14**

### **GENERAL DESCRIPTION**

Performs complex breastfeeding education. Provides education, assistance and support to breastfeeding mothers and their infants to attain a successful breastfeeding relationship. Responsible for training department staff. Assists in recruiting, training, and coordinating peer counselors. Employee has extensive latitude for the use of initiative and independent judgment.

### **EXAMPLES OF WORK PERFORMED**

Evaluates breastfeeding process between mothers and their infant, develops and implements a feeding plan based on the individual needs and goals of the breastfeeding mother/infant including evaluation of outcomes and appropriate follow-up

Provides consultation, support, counseling and educational classes for families experiencing routine and/or complex issues associated with lactation and breastfeeding

Certifies program participants following department's policies and procedures

Counsels participants with BF situations requiring special assistance

Assists with recruitment of eligible breastfeeding peer counselors

Conducts training following the department's training manuals

Provide in-service on breastfeeding to department staff and peer counselors as needed

Conducts home visits as needed

Acts as liaison for the department with other medical and community agencies

Establishes goals and objectives; develops and approves schedules, priorities, and standards for achieving goals; and directs evaluation activities.

Develops and implements techniques for evaluating program activities.

Plans, implements, coordinate, monitors, and evaluates policies and procedures.

Identifies areas of needed change, and makes recommendations to improve operations.

Provides technical guidance in the program area.

Plans, assigns, and supervises the work of others.

Performs other related duties as assigned.

## **GENERAL QUALIFICATION GUIDELINES**

### **Experience and Education**

Graduation from an accredited four-year college or university with major course work in Nutrition, Public Health, or related field required. Certified by International Board Certified Lactation Consultant required. Previous experience providing lactation instruction and support preferred. Two (2) years of experience may be substituted for one (1) year of education.

Bilingual is preferred (English/Spanish)

### **Certificates, Licenses, Registrations**

Licensed Dietician and/or Registered with ADA preferred

Current Immunization Record and an annual Tuberculin test

Must possess a valid Texas Motor Vehicle Operator's License

Must be able to be insured by the County's insurance carrier

### **Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities**

Ability to manage program activities; to establish goals and objectives; to devise solutions to administrative problems; to develop and evaluate administrative policies and procedures; to prepare reports; to communicate effectively; and to plan, assign, and supervise the work of others.

Ability to be organized, efficient and confidentiality

Knowledge of typical problems and constraints that the participants face when promoting breastfeeding

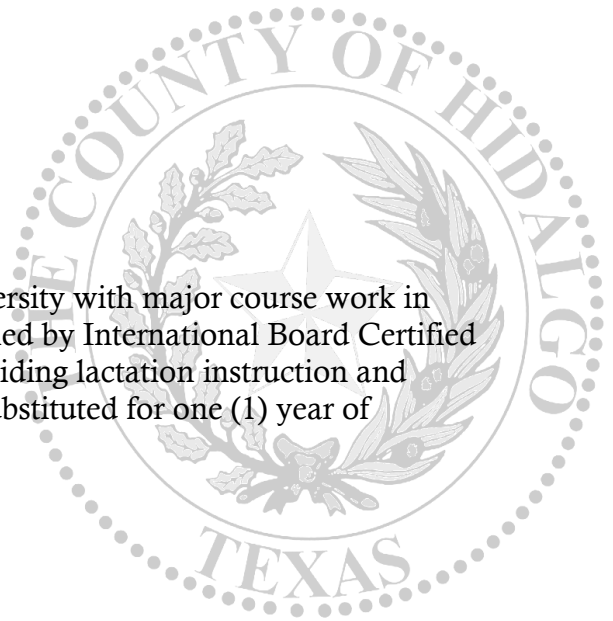
Organizational and interpersonal skills, written and oral communication skills

Employee may be assigned other duties in addition to those listed; duties may change according to the changing needs of the County

### **PHYSICAL DEMANDS:**

The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job.

While performing the duties of this job, the employee is regularly required to talk or hear. The employee frequently is required to stand. The employee is occasionally required to



walk; sit; use hands to find, handle, or feel objects, tools or controls; reach with hands and arms; climb or balance; stoop and kneel.

The employee must occasionally lift and/or move over 25 pounds. Specific vision abilities required by this job include close vision, depth perception, and the ability to adjust focus.

#### **WORK ENVIRONMENT:**

The work environment characteristics described here are representative of those an employee encounter while performing the essential functions of this job.

The noise level in the work environment is usually moderate.

#### **SAFETY REQUIREMENTS:**

Maintain physical conditions appropriate to the performance of assigned duties and responsibilities which may include the following:

- sitting for extended periods of time
- standing for extended periods of time
- operating assigned equipment

Maintain mental capacity which permits:

- making sound decisions and using good judgment
- demonstrating intellectual capabilities

Effectively handle a work environment and conditions which involve:

- working closely with others
- working in a multi-task environment

Maintain effective audio-visual discrimination and perception needed for:

- making observations
- reading and writing
- operating assigned equipment
- communication with others
- required to follow the Hidalgo County Accident Prevention Plan and department's safety regulations