The purpose of the clinical nurse specialist occupation is to serve as a consultant to all treatment teams & provide guidance, clinical direction, training & assistance on proactive, daily basis to nursing staff to attain & maintain optimum quality & appropriateness of nursing care, to all patients institution-wide, in accordance with nursing department's standards, standards of practice & standards of performance.

There shall be only one position per institution or facility which reports to the assistant director or director of nursing.

For positions involved in timely review of patient charts & medical records, appropriateness of admissions, discharges & continued stays, timeliness of treatment, planning & documentation & service responses, review of progress notes & deficiency reports of hospital committees or other paper reviews after-the-fact to ascertain quality of care & compliance with standards, see Peer Review Nurse, 6555 series.

For positions involved in clinical direction of nursing & direct care staff on daily basis, for assigned shift, for assigned ward or unit or other designated area of facility, see Psychiatric Nurse, 6552 series.

The advanced level class works under general direction & requires thorough knowledge of psychiatric nursing, standards of care, practice & performance for nurses & mental health technology in order to act as consultant to all treatment teams, clinically direct & consult all nursing personnel in performance of all aspects of nursing process to include assessment, plan of care, implementation of interventions & evaluation, conduct clinical case reviews of use of restraint or seclusion & assess nursing service in order to attain & maintain optimum quality & appropriateness of nursing care to all patients institution-wide (i.e., only one clinical nurse specialist position per institution) on proactive, daily basis.
**CLASS TITLE:**
Clinical Nurse Specialist

**CLASS NUMBER:**
65591

**BARGAINING UNIT:**
11

**EFFECTIVE DATE:**
03/07/2004

**JOB DUTIES IN ORDER OF IMPORTANCE:** (These duties are illustrative only. Incumbents may perform some or all of these duties or other job-related duties as assigned.)

Provides guidance, direction & assistance to entire nursing staff, institution-wide (i.e., only one clinical nurse specialist position per institution), in order to attain & maintain optimum quality & appropriateness of nursing care to all patients (e.g., clinically directs & consults with direct care nursing staff in all aspects of nursing process to include assessment of services to meet patients’ needs, plan of care, implementation of interventions & evaluation; conducts clinical case reviews of each use of restraint or seclusion to subdue/calm patients; responds to clinical crises on 24 hour/day basis) & serves as consultant to all treatment teams (e.g., designs & evaluates therapeutic interventions for patients, especially for those with complex treatment issues & directs implementation of thereof, such as, but not limited to individual &/or group psychotherapy, family, milieu &/or somatic therapy, counseling, health teaching, support & medication surveillance).

Assesses whether nursing service meets needs of patients & standards of care, practice & performance; collaborates with director of nursing education to develop & present inservice training programs.

Meets with members of other clinical disciplines & community health care providers relative to matters involving nursing practice; designs & conducts &/or participates in research studies; attends meetings, workshops, seminars & mandated training to keep abreast of changes in nursing occupation & mental health technology.

**MAJOR WORKER CHARACTERISTICS:**
Knowledge of professional nursing practice & standards; psychiatric nursing & mental health technology; departmental & other recognized standards of nursing care & performance*; public & human relations; clinical direction & education/training for nursing personnel. Skill in operation of medical equipment. Ability to deal with large number of variables relative to all aspects of nursing process to include assessment, plan of care, implementation of interventions with emphasis on those necessary to address complex treatment issues, & determine specific course of action to meet patients’ needs & to attain & maintain optimum quality of nursing care; clinically direct, advise & consult nursing personnel & collaborate with other clinical disciplines & community health care providers.

(*)Developed after employment.

**MINIMUM CLASS QUALIFICATIONS FOR EMPLOYMENT:**
Master's degree in nursing, specializing in psychiatric nursing & mental health technology; current licensure as Registered Nurse in Ohio.

**TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT REQUIRED TO REMAIN IN THE CLASSIFICATION AFTER EMPLOYMENT:**
Biennial renewal of licensure as registered nurse.

**UNUSUAL WORKING CONDITIONS:**
No assigned shift; on-call 24 hrs. per day, 7 days per week; exposed to communicable diseases; exposed to unpredictable behavior of patients.