

Hobbs Municipal Schools Job Description

Position: School Psychologist

Supervisor: Director of Special Education

General Job Description: To improve the school performance of special education students identified as having serious emotional or behavioral disabilities through evaluation, and therapeutic interventions.

Qualifications:

A. Level 1, Entry Level School Psychologist

1. A bachelor's and master's degree from a regionally accredited college or university; AND
2. 60 graduate hours (which may be completed as part of a master's degree program or in addition to the master's degree) meeting the applicable program requirements as follows:
 - a. The 60 graduate hours awarded by a regionally accredited college or university must incorporate the new Mexico State Board of Education's approved competencies in school psychology and include a 1200 hour internship, 600 hours of which must be in a school setting. Psychological counseling with students with severe emotional disturbances, and/or behavior disorders shall comprise a minimum of 300 hours of the internship under the supervision of a clinical supervising school psychologist;
OR
 - b. The 60 graduate hours awarded by a college or university outside of New Mexico must be for a school psychology or equivalent program approved by the New Mexico State Board of Education and include an internship in a school setting; OR
 - c. The 60 graduate hours as described in a or b above, excluding an internship, with documentation of one (1) year of successful clinically supervised experience in one of the following areas:
 - (1) school psychology;
 - (2) psychological counseling or psychological interventions including counseling; OR
2. A doctoral degree in clinical psychology, counseling psychology, or school psychology that includes 12 semester hours of child focused course work and /or 600 hours of experience in child psychology; OR
3. A valid clinical psychologist, counseling psychologist, or school psychologist license issued by the New Mexico Board of Psychologist Examiners; AND
4. The specialty area examination of the National Teachers Examination in school psychology.

B. Level 2, Independent School Psychologist

1. A valid level license; AND
2. Verification by the superintendent of the local school district or the governing authority of the private school or state institution that the school psychologist has satisfactorily demonstrated the school psychology competencies approved by the New Mexico State Board of Education with competencies regarding the provision of psychological counseling services for students who are designated as severely emotionally behaviorally disturbed be documented by a clinical supervision school psychologist.

C. Level 3A, Clinical Supervision School Psychologist

1. Doctoral degree in school psychology, clinical psychology, or counseling psychology from a regionally accredited college or university; AND
2. A valid clinical psychologist, counseling psychologist, or school psychologist license issued by the New Mexico Board of Psychologist Examiners; AND
3. Evidence of a minimum of 875 hours of supervised experience in diagnosing and treating children, including children with severe emotional disturbances and behavior disorder of children in a school setting; AND
4. Verification by the superintendent of the local school district or the governing authority of the private school or state institution that the school psychologist has satisfactorily demonstrated the clinical supervising school psychology competencies approved by the New Mexico State Board of Education; AND
5. The specialty area examination of the National Teachers Examination in school psychology.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities:

As a member of a number of EA & R multidisciplinary teams, the school psychologist is responsible for the following kinds of activities:

1. Conduct comprehensive psychological assessments of students referred for multifactorial evaluations.
2. Interpret results of psychological evaluations to school personnel, other concerned professionals, and parents and to students (whenever this is deemed appropriate).
3. Serve as a member of the Individual Education Planning Committee to assist in development of an individualized plan to enable the assigned student to progress, educationally.
4. Conduct individual, group, or facilitative therapy with students whose identified emotional/behavioral needs require psychosocial counseling, and/or behavioral modifications.
5. Provide assistance and support to classroom teachers, or other school staff, as required to assist in implementing as student's IEP.
6. Participate in case staffing as requested by supervisor.
7. Participate in in-service training, as assigned.
8. Attend scheduled staff meetings and committee meetings as required.
9. Maintain an acceptable knowledge level of most current and relevant developments in the field of School Psychology/Special Education, as they may pertain to this job description.
10. Complete required reports in a timely manner as requested.
11. See additional duties as defined in SB Regulation No. 93-2.
12. Complete other tasks as deemed appropriate by the immediate supervisor and/or the superintendent.

Work Environment:

The School Psychologist shall be assigned office space amenable to individual and small group consultations. When working with individual students or groups of students or staff in the schools, a reasonable clean and distraction-free area is to be jointly discussed with the building supervisor; when possible, such space is to be reserved for testing or therapy on a reasonable weekly schedule. It shall be the duty of the psychologist to maintain a travel schedule from one location to another, and to provide timely notices when published schedules cannot be maintained. Must be able to work within various degrees of noise, temperature and air quality. Job responsibilities require both inside and outside assignments. Interruptions of work are routine. Flexibility and patience are required. Must be self-motivated and able to complete job assignments without direct supervision. After hour work may be required. Must be able to work under stressful conditions. After hour work may be required. May make site or home visits when needed or appropriate.

Additional Information:

Because the field of school psychology is a rapidly expanding and greatly demanding discipline, the psychologist is expected to maintain professional affiliation and to be provided opportunities for collegiality with other practicing professionals within the discipline, of a periodic basis. SBE Regulation No. 93-2 Licensure for School Psychologists K-12.

Physical Requirements:

Sitting, standing, lifting, and carrying (up to 50 pounds), reaching, climbing, squatting, kneeling, and moving light furniture may be required

Safety and Health Requirements:

1. Bloodborne Pathogens Standard Training
2. Receive, and then provide special training in physical restraint procedures, as requested, which may be necessary to employ when dealing with behaviorally disturbed students.

Equipment/Material handled:

Must know how to properly operate or be willing to learn to operate all multimedia equipment including current technology.

Terms of Employment:

Salary and work year to be established by the Board.