

## DIETITIAN

**DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS:** This is professional work involving responsibility for planning and directing programs of nutrition education. In addition, this position is responsible for the assessment of nutritional needs of children, families, and adults who are at nutritional risk. The position involves planning for the provision of foods and beverages appropriate for the individual's physical and medical needs, and providing nutrition education and counseling to adequately meet their regular and therapeutic needs. General direction is received from the Food Service Director or School Lunch Director with leeway allowed for exercise of independent judgment. This class differs from the food management and supervisory positions of Food Service Manager, Assistant Food Service Manager and Senior Food Service Helper in that dietary and nutritional direction and guidance is provided only to employees in the dietary department. Supervision may be exercised over the work of Dietetic Technicians and Dietary staff assigned to assist the Dietitian. Does related work as required.

### **TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:**

Develops and implement procedures for nutrition education, intervention, data collection, and documentation in accordance with federal and state regulations and guidelines to ensure program effectiveness;

Develops and plan nutritional menus, which may involve researching new products to provide healthier menu choices;

Assesses nutritional needs of target populations by comparing dietary intake against standards for nutrition;

Provides nutrition counseling to target populations regarding foods available through stores, restaurants, and community programs;

Plans and conducts education programs in nutrition for individuals, agencies, and interested community groups;

Conducts individual and group counseling on nutrition;

Advises target populations and staff on available community resources in foods and nutrition;

Monitors activities of community agencies engaged in providing client nutritional needs;

Participates in state, regional, and local programs to keep abreast of new developments in the field of nutrition;

Functions as a nutrition resource for the community;

As needed, provides direction and guidance to the food service component of the dietetic service;

May advise on the purchase of food used in the facility as well as on safe and sanitary use of equipment in food service and preparation;

Prepares a variety of records and reports related to dietary activities.

**FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:**

- Thorough knowledge of the principles and practices of dietetics and diet therapy;
- Thorough knowledge of processes involved in menu planning, marketing, food preparation and the ability to advise on organizing and directing these processes effectively, efficiently and economically;
- Thorough knowledge of the relationship of nutrient intake to health and to restorative and rehabilitative treatment;
- Thorough knowledge of how various disease states and medical regimens alter nutrient needs;
- Thorough knowledge of processes involved in food preparation and services, and ability to advise on organizing and directing these processes effectively, efficiently and economically;
- Ability to assess nutritional needs and counsel populations relative to these needs;
- Ability to keep accurate records and to prepare analytical reports in connection with the work;
- Ability to follow oral and written directions;
- Ability to get along well with others;

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:**

PURSUANT TO PART 11 OF THE STATE SANITARY CODE (10 NYCRR)

- A) Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State registered college or university with a Bachelor's Degree in dietetics, food and nutrition, food science or closely related field; AND
- B) Current registration or eligible for registration\* by the American Dietetics Association as a Registered Dietitian.

\* If eligible for registration, the incumbent must become registered within one year of appointment.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT: Incumbents must be certified by New York State as a Registered Dietician within one year of appointment.

R317            5/29/09

COMPETITIVE