HOME HEALTH AIDE

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: This is routine work involving health care and personal care of patients in the normal activities of daily living in their homes. The work is designed to allow incapacitated patients the opportunity of remaining at home rather than requiring institutionalization. Employees in this class are required to complete a basic training program in home health care. They work in close cooperation with, and under the guidance and direction of, a Community Health Nurse. Does related work as required.

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES - (Illustrative only)

- With approval of a Registered Nurse:

-Changes simple dressings;
-Changes ostomy bags;
-Provides catheter care;
-Assists with ambulatory devices, such as walkers, crutches and wheel chairs;
-May take vital signs (i.e. temperature, blood pressure, pulse);
-Bathes patient and gives personal hygienic care;
-Helps patient to the bathroom and in use of bed pan;
-Assists patient in performing exercises prescribed by appropriate professional personnel;
-Makes beds and performs other tasks to provide a suitable environment for patient;
-Plans and prepares meals for patient and may do marketing;
-Cleans, dusts, washes dishes and performs a variety of other light housekeeping tasks;
-Cares for patient's clothing, including light washing, ironing, mending and sorting of clothes.

REQUIRED KNOWLEDGES, SKILLS AND ABILITIES: Ability to understand and carry out non-technical oral and written directions; physical strength and mental alertness; emotional and mental maturity; sympathetic attitude in caring for the sick; ability to get along well with others and gain the cooperation of the patient; dependability; neat appearance; physical condition commensurate with the demands of the position.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

Graduation from high school or possession of a high school equivalency diploma and completion of a basic training program in home health aide services. Some experience in housekeeping and the care of the sick is desirable.