

STATE OF WISCONSIN  
CLASSIFICATION SPECIFICATION

SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST  
CLASSIFICATION SERIES

I. INTRODUCTION

A. Purpose of This Classification Specification

This classification specification is the basic authority under ER 2.04, Wis. Adm. Code, for making classification decisions relative to present and future professional School Psychologist positions located within the classified service. Positions allocated to this classification series must be certified or eligible for certification as a School Psychologist by the Department of Public Instruction and perform responsible school psychologist work in state operated educational programs administered to residents or offenders of institutions or students in schools operated by the State. This classification specification will not specifically identify every eventuality or combination of duties and responsibilities of positions that currently exist, or those that result from changing program emphasis in the future. Rather, it is designed to serve as a framework for classification decision making in this occupational area.

B. Inclusions

The positions in this classification series are professional school psychologist positions which perform the full range of psychological diagnostic and consultative services and treatment planning as defined in Chapter 455, Wis. Stats., as "rendering to any person a psychological service involving the application of principles, methods and procedures of understanding, predicting and influencing behavior, such as the principles pertaining to learning, perception, motivation, thinking, emotions and interpersonal relationships; the methods and procedures of interviewing and counseling in psychotherapy; and the methods and procedures of constructing, administering and interpreting tests of mental abilities, aptitudes, interests, attitudes, personality characteristics, emotion and motivation. The application of said principles and methods includes, but is not restricted to: psychological diagnoses, prevention and amelioration of adjustment problems in behavioral, emotional and mental disorders; hypnosis; educational and vocational counseling; personnel selection and management; the evaluation and planning for effective work in learning situations; advertising and market research; and the resolution of interpersonal and social conflicts." Positions allocated to these classifications are located in the Department of Health and Social Services, Department of Corrections and the Department of Public Instruction.

C. Exclusions

Excluded from this classification series are the following types of positions:

1. Positions that meet the statutory definition of supervisor and/or management as defined in ss. 111.81(19) and (13), Wis. Stats., as interpreted and administered by the Wisconsin Employment Relations Commission.

2. Positions that are engaged in the direct provision of social work or vocational counseling activities a majority of the time (more than 50%) and are more appropriately classified as Social Worker, Social Worker-Clinical, or Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor.
3. Positions that are engaged in the direct provision of professional psychological counseling services to residents of state operated facilities with an emphasis on the clinical rather than educational aspects a majority of the time (more than 50%) and are more appropriately classified as Psychological Associate or Psychologist-Licensed.
4. Positions that are engaged in the provision and coordination of psychological services within a region of the state as defined in the Division of Community Corrections, Department of Corrections a majority of the time (more than 50%) and are more appropriately classified as Chief Regional Psychologist.
5. All other positions that are more appropriately identified by other classification specifications.

D. Entrance Into This Classification Series

Employees enter positions in this classification series by competitive examination. Movement to the School Psychologist Senior level may occur through reclassification as the employee satisfactorily attains the specified training, education, credentials, or experience.

## II. DEFINITIONS

### SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST

Positions in this classification perform school psychologist work in addressing the exceptional education needs (EEN) of students in schools operated by the State for residents of institutions for the mentally ill, developmentally disabled, hearing impaired, visually impaired, or offenders in adult or juvenile correctional facilities. Positions are, for a majority of the time, engaged in interpretation of theories of personality, social system, motivation, etc. as they relate to learning and curriculum in a structured educational setting. The School Psychologist provides a comprehensive continuum of psychological services including assessment, consultation, and direct intervention to students in accordance with school and institution policies and procedures and state and federal mandates. The work requires the utilization of specialized professional skill and competence and is performed under general supervision of higher level clinical staff or under administrative direction of administrative staff.

### REPRESENTATIVE POSITIONS:

#### Department of Corrections:

Ethan Allen School: Reports to the Juvenile Education Director and serves as team leader of the institution Special Education Program, providing a comprehensive continuum of psychological services in accordance with school and institution policies and procedures and state and federal mandates. Provides assessment, consultation, and direct intervention to students experiencing extraordinary problems and/or students who are suspect or identified as having exceptional education needs.

**Department of Public Instruction:**

Wisconsin School for the Deaf: Reports to the Education Director and functions as the school psychologist, providing evaluation and counseling services selected and adapted to the unique communication needs of deaf children. Evaluates and counsels students and provides education and counseling to parents and staff, assisting in the resolution of social, emotional and school related problems.

**SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGIST SENIOR**

This is very responsible school psychologist work. Positions classified at this level perform the duties described in the definition statement for the School Psychologist level and, in addition, are responsible for development and evaluation of the school psychology program within an institution. Work assignments at this level are more varied and complex than work performed at the School Psychologist level, requiring the utilization of advanced and specialized knowledge and skills.

**III. QUALIFICATIONS**

The qualifications required for these positions will be determined at the time of recruitment. Such determinations will be made based on an analysis of the goals and worker activities performed and by an identification of the education, training, work, or other life experience which would provide reasonable assurance that the knowledge and skills required upon appointment have been acquired.

Certain positions in these classifications may perform functions that, under Wisconsin Statutes, can only be carried out by individuals that have completed their doctoral degree in Psychology and/or are licensed as Psychologists by the Wisconsin Psychology Examining Board.

Must be certified or eligible for certification as a School Psychologist by the Department of Public Instruction.

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