

## DUAL DIAGNOSIS SPECIALIST

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: This is a professional dual diagnosis position involving the delivery of therapeutic services to enable patients to cope with substance abuse and mental health. Responsibilities include but are not limited to intake; diagnostic assessment and evaluation; treatment planning; therapy; maintenance of case records; preventive community education and coordination of client services with community agencies. Case assignments and administrative supervision are received from the Director of Community Services. Clinical supervision is received on an as-needed basis from the Clinical Program Manager or some other higher level clinical mental health professional.

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES: *The typical work activities listed below, while providing representative examples of the variety of work assignments in the title, do not describe any individual position. Incumbents in this title may perform some or all of the following, as well as other related activities not described.*

Provides assessment, triage and direct treatment services for individuals with co-occurring mental health and addictive disorders;

Provides direct treatment, including crisis intervention, consultations, linkages to community services and reports to referring entities;

Provides consultation and other collaborative supports to medical and psychiatric professionals regarding changes in status, required treatment, security, and housing needs;

Provides training, education and mentoring supports to other professional staff regarding issues of risk, lethality and enhanced treatment planning for the identified “high-risk” co-occurring population;

Daily monitoring of urine specimen results to ensure correct level of care dispositions are being implemented;

Direct contact with Lab (Millennium) regarding any missing information on toxicology screenings which may have been omitted;

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Assists in information gathering and evaluating changes and trends in the risk factors of individuals with co-occurring disorders and identifies optimal emerging treatment practice to address emerging risk

Is the liaison between Mental Health and Substance Abuse Treatment and flags “high-risk” dual diagnosis patients for Community Services, as well as substance use services;

Direct Interaction with Care Coordinators to provide clinical direction for patients working with case management, including urine toxicology screens as well as clinical interventions when applicable;

Monitoring and coverage for the implementation of MOUD services.;

Continual interaction with nursing staff and doctors/prescribers on the unit to provide clinical expertise on cases involving MOUD services to assist them in their clinical diagnosis and maintenance of patients on MOUD therapy;

Obtaining of urine toxicology screen on all patients per request of nursing staff whether patient has substance misuse or not; and

Has acquired and maintains special expertise with dual diagnosis clients by completing a 45-hour course sponsored by NYS OMH/NYS OASAS with ongoing education (“Integrated Mental Health/Addictions Treatment Training Certificate”).

**FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGES, SKILLS, ABILITIES, AND PERSONAL**

**CHARACTERISTICS:** Thorough knowledge of the problems, social and psychological issues of persons and families affected by alcohol or substance abuse and dependence; thorough knowledge of the techniques and procedures used to treat alcohol or substance dependence; ability to establish rapport and work effectively with persons who experience alcohol or substance dependence; ability to communicate clearly in English, both orally and in writing; ability to evaluate and assess

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the medical, psychological, and social needs of alcohol or substance abusing persons, members of their families, and significant others; ability to develop comprehensive treatment and rehabilitation plans for persons under treatment and their families; ability to provide information and referral services; sensitivity to persons with alcohol or substance dependence problems; sensitivity to cultural diversity and competency issues; ability to work effectively with persons from a variety of socio-economic, ethnic, and cultural backgrounds; integrity; and compassion for others.

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:** Either:

- (A) Graduation from a regionally accredited college or university, or one accredited by the New York Board of Regents, to grant degrees with a Master's Degree with two (2) years' experience treating mentally ill chemically-dependent clients, or
- (B) Graduation from a regionally accredited college or university, or one accredited by the New York Board of Regents, to grant degrees with a Bachelor's Degree with four (4) years' experience treating mentally ill chemically-dependent clients, or
- (C) Graduation from a regionally accredited college or university, or one accredited by the New York Board of Regents, to grant degrees with an Associate's Degree with six (6) years' experience treating mentally ill chemically-dependent clients.

***SPECIAL REQUIREMENT: Possession of CASAC credential.***

**NOTE:** Your degree or credits must have been awarded by a college or university accredited by a regional, national, or specialized agency recognized as an accrediting agency by the U.S. Department of Education/U.S. Secretary of Education. If your degree or credits were awarded by an educational institution outside of the United States and its territories, you must provide independent verification of equivalency. A list of acceptable companies who provide this service can be found on the Internet at: <https://www.cs.ny.gov/jobseeker/degrees.cfm>. You must pay the required evaluation fee.

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Originated: 7/7/2022

Jurisdictional Class: Competitive

Public Hearing: N/A

NYS Civil Service Commission Approval: N/A

Reviewed and placed in Classplan: 9/1/2022  
Revised (name change) in Classplan 9/7/2022  
Revised and Replaced in Classplan: 2/2/2023  
Revised and Replaced in Classplan: 12/3/2024