

LACTATION EDUCATOR

DEFINITION

Under general supervision, to assist public health staff in increasing the incidence and duration of breastfeeding through direct contact and education of pregnant and postpartum women, education and training of public health staff, support of drop-in clinics and breastpump rental programs, and other similar duties.

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES

Assists in the WIC telephone follow-up Program for pregnant women and breastfeeding mothers; completes antepartal and postpartum assessment questionnaires; refers problems or complex questions with which the mother may need assistance to a Public Health Nurse; provides a drop-in clinic for breastfeeding families; follows protocol set up by the International Association of Lactation Consultants to provide breastfeeding support to mothers, infants and families; participates in the Breastfeeding Quality Improvement Committee; provides breastfeeding support to public health staff.

EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS

Education and Experience: Possession of Lactation Educator or International Board Certified Lactation Consultant certification.

Knowledges, Skills and Abilities: Strong interest in the promotion of breastfeeding in society. Ability to promote trust and confidence in pregnant women and new mothers. Ability to relate to people of diverse backgrounds. Strong interpersonal skills and telephone skills. Ability to establish and maintain accurate records. Ability to work independently.