

## **Child Protective Services Caseworker**

**DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS:** A Child Protective Worker is expected to assure the life and safety of children who have been reported as abused or neglected by their parents or caretakers. The Child Protective Worker often encounters very troubled and complex family environments, which require great sensitivity and a professional social work approach to the duties. The worker is expected to perform investigations in accordance with State and Local regulations to assess the risk to the child and to perform such social work functions as counseling and case management as may be necessary. The work will be performed under supervision, with in-service training provided either through outside agencies or by the agency's Staff Development Programs.

### **Typical Work Activities: (Illustrative only)**

- Receives Child Abuse and/or Maltreatment Reports and initiates an investigation within 24 hours (or immediately if allegations are life threatening);
- Makes determinations that there is or is not credible evidence of Child Abuse and/or Maltreatment by interviewing the child, family, and obtaining information from collateral contacts;
- Arranges for the provision of appropriate emergency and rehabilitative services for children physically or emotionally harmed or at risk of harm;
- Provides and/or arranges for counseling, therapy and training courses for the parents or guardians of the child;
- Assists the Family Court and/or the Criminal Court during all stages of a Court proceeding in accordance with the purposes of Title 6 of Article 6 of Social Services Law;
- Conducts a continuing publicity and education program to encourage the fullest degree of reporting of suspected Child Abuse or Maltreatment and to develop public support for the prevention of Child Abuse or Maltreatment;
- Determines validity of complaints of alleged Child Abuse and/or Maltreatment through interviews with children, families and collateral contacts.

**REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES:** Working knowledge of Federal, State and local public welfare laws and programs as they relate to the Child Protective Program; ability to establish and maintain successful relationships with people; resourcefulness; sensitivity to the reactions of others; good powers of observation and analysis; initiative; tact; emotional maturity and stability; good judgment; physical condition commensurate with the requirements of the job.

### **MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:**

Graduation from a standard senior high school or possession of a high school equivalency diploma issued by the New York State Education Department, plus;

- Either (A)** Graduation from a recognized college or university with a four year program in Human Services in which a Bachelor's Degree is granted, acceptable programs will include Sociology, Psychology and Social Work, AND two years of acceptable, full-time, paid experience in Social Work with a public or private agency adhering to acceptable standards;
- Or (B)** Possession of a Master's in Social Work Degree (MSW) earned from a recognized college or university;
- Or (C)** Any equivalent combination of training and experience defined by (A) and (B) above.

**Competitive Class**

**Adopted 06/27/1989 CSC Action**