

Alberta Health Services (AHS) and the Health Sciences Association of Alberta (HSAA)

This classification specification identifies representative duties and responsibilities, and is intended to assist in the determination of the appropriate classification level within each discipline. Some duties and responsibilities may overlap between class levels. The classification specification is not intended to provide an exhaustive list of all duties performed.

Classification Title: **Child & Youth Development Specialist**

Date Updated: **March 2, 2021**

Job Summary:

The Child & Youth Development Specialist provides assessment, treatment and follow-up to children and youth in the community, educational system, and/or hospital setting who are at risk of or with a disability, and/or significant developmental delay. Working with their specific client group and/or their families the Child & Youth Development Specialist plans, initiates, provides and/or supports treatment to further social, emotional, intellectual and physical development.

Key Responsibilities and Typical Duties:

Core Duties

- Provides screening, assessment, treatment recommendations, planning, evaluation and follow-up for the child/youth and their family.
- Observes, identifies and reports child developmental or behavior difficulties related to overall development and makes recommendations to appropriate multi-disciplinary team.
- Provides therapeutic treatments including behaviour management.
- Plans/facilitates learning activities designed to enhance the development of the child/youth.
- Creates, implements and updates care plans specific to child/youth needs.
- Assists the family with developing skills to cope with the needs of the child/youth.
- Liaises with and provides referrals to other disciplines and external agencies as appropriate.

Other Related Duties

- Provides information and education regarding child development to parents, education providers, other health care providers and the community as appropriate.
- Supports family funding and education/services placement applications.
- Maintains printed resources and equipment for child and adolescent programs.

Leadership

- Orients, supervises and evaluates students, as assigned.
- Provides in-service training and education to educational providers, other health care providers and community service agencies.

Decision-Making

- Determines appropriateness of referrals.
- Evaluates and adapts interventions/activities as appropriate.
- Reviews and evaluates effectiveness of support for the client and family.
- Consults and collaborates with inter-disciplinary professional(s) as appropriate.
- Resolves unusual or complex situations and/or cases or refers the situation/case to the appropriate individual(s).

Knowledge:

Education

- Bachelor's Degree in Child & Youth Care or a related field or equivalent education and experience.

Registration Requirements

- Current registration with the appropriate regulatory body if applicable.

Working Conditions:

Physical Demands

- Required to stand and sit on floor.
- Lifts and carries equipment and supplies.
- Assumes awkward positions.

Work Environment

- Community or home visits will have variable conditions.
- Travel in all-weather/road conditions.
- May be subject to verbally and/or physically aggressive clients and family.