Psychiatric Technology Program

Developmental Disabilities
Medical-Surgical Nursing
Mental Disorders
What does the psych-tech do?

• The P.T. helps, treats, works with, and takes direct care of, and direct charge of clients with:
  – Emotional illness,
  – Mental illness,
  – Physical illness, and
  – Developmental disabilities
In a Health Care Setting, The Psych Tech Supervises & Assists Clients In The Areas of:

- Eating
- Sleeping
- Personal hygiene
- Developing social relationships
- Developing skills to resolve conflicts with peers
- Developing job skills
- Assuming responsibility for work
- Finding appropriate leisure & recreation
The Psych Tech Must have knowledge of:

- First Aid
- C.P.R.
- Nursing Process
- Communication
- Behavior modification: observing & changing behavior using rewards & punishments; time-out, ignoring.
- Genetic & metabolic disorders: Prader-Willi, Down syndrome.
- Prenatal & postnatal causes of mental retardation: from exposure to alcohol, illness.
- Neurological disorders – autism, cerebral palsy, hydrocephalus, seizures
The Psych Tech must have knowledge of:

- Pharmacology (drugs & calculation of drug dosages).
- Nutrition
- Eating and feeding disorders.
- Growth & development
- Drug abuse & alcoholism
- Anxiety disorders: phobias
- Mood disorders: bipolar, depression.
- Schizophrenia
- Personality disorders
- Human sexuality
- Individual therapies
- Group therapies
The Psych Tech must have knowledge of:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Diseases &amp; treatments of these systems:</th>
<th>Eye, nose, ear &amp; throat</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cardiovascular</td>
<td>Endocrine</td>
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<tr>
<td>Blood &amp; blood vessels</td>
<td>Reproductive</td>
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<td>Respiratory</td>
<td>Musculoskeletal</td>
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<td>Gastrointestinal</td>
<td>Skin</td>
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<td>Urinary</td>
<td>Childhood</td>
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<td>Aging &amp; elderly</td>
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The Psych Tech is able to perform:

- Vital signs: B/P, pulse, temperature
- Bed bath & bed-making
- Feeding & toileting
- Medication administration
- Injections: insulin, TB skin test, IM
- Seizure management
- Wound care

Care of:
- Client confined to bed
- Colostomy
- Tracheostomy

Insertion of:
- Naso-gastric tube
- Gastrostomy tube
- Enemas
- Urinary catheterization
About the Program

• 12 months long: 3 semesters.
• Enrollment:
  – August to August
  – January to December.
• Application Deadlines:
  – August class is Feb. 1
  – January class is Sept. 1
• 20-30 students per class on a first qualified basis.
• Fall & Spring – 18 Weeks
  – PSYTCH 084: 17 units.
  – PSYTCH 086: 17 units.
• Summer only – 10 Weeks
  – PSYTCH 085: 12 units
• May submit a completed application anytime.
Application to the Program

- Application form may be found on-line or in the HLS office.
- Must include proof of high school graduation or GED.
- Unofficial transcripts from SBVC/CHC
- Official transcripts from all other US colleges.
- Foreign transcripts are to be evaluated. See Admissions or Counseling for more information.
- Include Assessments.
- Collect all information and submit application.
- May be submitted anytime.
INSTRUCTION

LECTURE
• In classrooms at SBVC
  – Mondays & Tuesdays
  – 5-6 1/2 hours per day

CLINICAL
• At community sites:
  – Wed., Thurs., Fridays
  – 7-8 hours per day

• Total hours in training per week: 31-35 hours.
Hospital sites for training:

• Arrowhead Regional Medical Center in Colton.
• Canyon Springs Community Facility in Cathedral City.
• Lanterman Developmental Center in Pomona.
• Vista Cove Care in Rialto.
• Patton State Hospital in Highland.
• VA Hospital in Loma Linda.
Who Can Enter?

• Must be a U.S. citizen, have a student visa, or legal residency status.
• Must be 18 years of age.
• Must have High School certificate or G.E.D.

• Pre-requisite classes must be taken prior to entering program, with a grade of "C or better:
  • Biology 155
  • English 101 or higher.
  • Psychology 100
  • Math 095 or higher.
Financial considerations:

- **Estimated** Cost of the program: $3,700
- Books: $500
- Uniforms (2 tunics, 2 pants, 1 pair of nursing shoes): $200
- Equipment (stethoscope, scissors, watch): $35
- Parking fee.
- Health fee
- Malpractice insurance
- **End of the program:**
  - Board exam fee: $150
  - Life Scan: $67 Plus
  - PT License $300
  - Save $500 for End of Program

6/24/2012
What may prevent a candidate from becoming a psychiatric technician?

- The following crimes may prevent a candidate from becoming licensed and employed:
  - Crimes of violence
  - Child abuse
  - Spousal abuse
  - Elder abuse
  - Dependent abuse
  - Welfare Fraud

- Other felonies.

- Stalking
- Murder
- Kidnapping
- Hostage taking
- False imprisonment
- Drug crimes less than 5 years.
- D.U.I.s less than 3 years.
Licensure

• To find employment as a Psychiatric Technician, the candidate upon completion of the program must successfully pass a licensing exam administered by the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians.

• Upon passing the exam, the candidate must apply for the license – cost $300. (If employed by a State agency, the cost is reimbursed to the Psychiatric Technician).

• Every 2 years, the PT must complete 30 Continuing Education Units (C.E.U.s) and renew his/her license.
What makes someone a good candidate?

- A good candidate is one who is honest & ethical;
- Enjoys working with people;
- Has good communication skills or is willing to develop these skills;
- Is open minded and open to learning new skills;
- Can work in different & sometimes difficult situations;
- Can manage stress in a healthy manner;
- Is hopeful and recognizes that human behavior is dynamic and can be changed.