

**MICHIGAN CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION  
JOB SPECIFICATION**

**FORENSIC PSYCHIATRIST**

**JOB DESCRIPTION**

Employees in this job complete and oversee a variety of professional assignments for the treatment of patients in a state forensic facility. The Forensic Psychiatrist may be assigned to an In-patient Unit or the Evaluation Unit at the Center for Forensic Psychiatry.

There are two classifications in this job.

**Position Code Title - Forensic Psychiatrist-E**

Forensic Psychiatrist P17

This is the experienced level. The employee performs a full range of psychiatrist assignments while learning on the job the specific areas of the Forensic Psychiatry sub specialty. Extensive independent judgement is required to carry out assignments that have substantial impact on forensic psychiatry services and programs throughout the state. Availability of guidelines is limited and theories, principles, and practices of the forensic psychiatry profession must be used to determine appropriate courses of action.

**Position Code Title - Forensic Psychiatrist-A**

Forensic Psychiatrist 18

This is the advanced level. The employee may function as a lead or senior worker. At this level, employees are responsible for overseeing the work assignments of other Certified and/or Consulting Forensic Examiners performing forensic evaluations, or have regular assignments that have been recognized by Civil Service as having significantly greater complexity than those assigned at the experienced level.

**JOB DUTIES**

**NOTE:** The job duties listed are typical examples of the work performed by positions in this job classification. Not all duties assigned to every position are included, nor is it expected that all positions will be assigned every duty.

Prepares specialized forensic evaluation reports for the courts and others based on knowledge of specific forensic psychiatry issues, including competency to stand trial, criminal responsibility and prediction of future dangerousness.

Provides expert witness testimony, as a Consulting Forensic Examiner, in courts of law and administrative hearings regarding competency to stand trial and criminal responsibility.

Conducts evaluations to provide opinions on civil commitment and other specialized forensic issues, as well as the psychiatric status of patients.

Directs and instructs nurses, other professional staff, and Forensic Security Aides in the care and treatment of residents including the management of dangerous patients.

Provides instruction and guidance to forensic clinicians that are conducting forensic evaluations on competency to stand trial, criminal responsibility and other forensic evaluations of medical and psychiatric issues in these cases.

Participates in the diagnosis and treatment of newly admitted, convalescent and chronic patients who are charged with crimes, acquitted by reason of insanity, transferred to the facility as too dangerous to be treated in other DCH health settings or prisoners requiring specialized psychiatric treatment.

May complete physical, mental and neurological examinations of assigned patients.

Treats medical, surgical, psychiatric and neurological problems of patients in the facility.

Interprets forensic psychiatric and clinical findings with patients, their families, other medical professionals, attorneys, teachers and interested parties.

Conducts group and family therapy sessions.

Prepares diagnostic reports for judges, administrative law examiners, federal government officials, school officials and other interested parties.

Prescribes medications for the treatment of physical and psychiatric disorders.

Attends and participates in the Center's ACGME accredited specialty training program in forensic psychiatry.

Receives advanced training in the field of psychiatry or neurology and specialized training in forensic psychiatry.

Researches cognitive disorders to identify treatment methods.

Delivers speeches to lay and professional groups concerning forensic psychiatry, mental hygiene, child guidance and related topics.

Represents the facility by providing consultative testimony to the courts throughout the state.

Performs related work as assigned.

### **Additional Job Duties**

#### **Forensic Psychiatrist 18 (Lead Worker)**

Oversees the work of professional staff by making and reviewing work assignments, establishing priorities, coordinating activities, and resolving related work problems.

#### **Forensic Psychiatrist 18 (Senior Worker)**

Performs on a regular basis professional forensic psychiatric assignments that are identified by the Agency and accepted by Civil Service as highly complex in nature.

### **JOB QUALIFICATIONS**

#### **Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities**

**NOTE:** Considerable knowledge is required at the experienced level and thorough knowledge is required at the advanced level.

Knowledge of the principles and practices of medicine, surgery, psychiatry and neurology.

Knowledge of current theories and practices in the field of mental health.

Knowledge of medications and their effects on physical and psychological disorders.

Knowledge of organization and operation of a mental health facility.

Knowledge of research methods and techniques.

Knowledge of legal and risk management issues in a medical practice.

Knowledge of treatment and management of dangerous patients.

Knowledge of medication management of treatment resistant and non compliant patients.  
Ability to diagnose and treat mental illness in relationship to physical conditions.  
Ability to provide understandable and persuasive expert testimony about forensic issues.  
Ability to deal effectively with emotionally disturbed children and adults.  
Ability to work effectively with potentially assaultive patients.  
Ability to work with patients charged with a crime or acquitted by reason of insanity.  
Ability to direct the work of others.  
Ability to identify appropriate treatment programs, and to interpret treatment programs to patients' relatives, staff, medical and other professionals and other interested parties.  
Ability to prepare and review forensic reports, incorporating legal and clinical information so that it can be understood by attorneys, judges and juries.  
Ability to provide expert witness testimony regarding the status of patient's psychological condition.  
Ability to conduct group and family therapy sessions.  
Ability to maintain records and prepare reports and correspondence related to the work.  
Ability to communicate effectively with others.  
Ability to maintain favorable public relations.

### **Additional Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities**

#### **Forensic Psychiatrist 18 (Lead Worker)**

Ability to organize and coordinate the work of others.  
Ability to set priorities and assign work to other professionals.

### **Working Conditions**

The work may involve the treatment of non cooperative patients. Exposure to illness, disease, and assaultive residents are inherent in the work.

### **Physical Requirements**

The job duties require an employee to work under stressful conditions.

### **Education**

Possession of a medical degree from an accredited school of medicine.

### **Experience**

#### **Forensic Psychiatrist P17**

Completion of three years of successful training in a psychiatric residency-training program which yields a certificate of completion.

#### **Forensic Psychiatrist 18**

Completion of a psychiatric residency program, one year of experience as a psychiatrist in a mental health facility, clinic, program or correctional facility and certification as a Consulting Forensic Examiner by the Center for Forensic Psychiatry.

### **Special Requirements, Licenses, and Certifications**

Possession of a license to practice medicine or osteopathic medicine and surgery in Michigan.

Some positions may require a Controlled Substance license.

Some positions may require that only individuals with specific education and experience qualifications be appointed.

Some positions require possession of the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology "general requirements" for certification in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry.

Some positions require possession of ABPN general psychiatry certification with special competency.

Certification as a Consulting Forensic Examiner within first year.

**NOTE:** Equivalent combinations of education and experience that provide the required knowledge, skills, and abilities will be evaluated on an individual basis.

**JOB CODE, POSITION TITLES AND CODES, AND COMPENSATION INFORMATION**

**Job Code**

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**Job Code Description**

FORENSIC PSYCHIATRIST

**Position Title**

Forensic Psychiatrist-E

Forensic Psychiatrist-A

**Position Code**

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**Pay Schedule**

W22-055

W22-058

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08/23/2020