



Clinical Sports Social Worker Job Description

The Clinical Sports Social Worker will work as a member of an interdisciplinary team to deliver comprehensive general psychological services and lifetime wellness services. This includes therapeutic interventions, sport performance, consultation, training, and psychoeducation to relevant teams, coaches, and athletic department personnel. The Clinical Sports Social Worker provides strong advocacy skills while promoting a culture of lifetime wellness. Utilizing the NCAA guidelines for Mental Health Best Practices, the Clinical Sports Social Worker keeps up-to-date on the latest trends and aligns services with best practices for the athletes and overall mission of the athletic department.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES:

- Serves as mental health clinician, providing individual, couples, and group therapy services. Ability to work within a time-limited model. Delivery of emergency and/or on-call services as assigned.
- Promotes mental health and well-being through consultation, collaboration, training, and psychoeducation across athletic, student, and professional communities.
- Provides critical incident debriefing when/if a team member, coach, etc., experiences a traumatic event/episode.
- Collaborates and coordinates care with health specific personnel, including sports physicians, athletic trainers, and nutritionists to promote and support holistic wellbeing. Works in conjunction with team physician for annual and temporal mental health screening for all student-athletes.
- Identifies and establishes relationships with mental health and psychiatry specialists in the community to deliver a full continuum of care.
- Provides educational programs regarding mental illness, identifying signs of mental illness, and how to make appropriate referrals for therapy/counseling.
- Facilitates and participates in program evaluation and research to expand existing training program(s) in support of student-athlete mental health and well-being.
- Engages in professional development activities to maintain licensure/certification.
- Performs additional professional services based on individual skills and interests consistent with Athletic department need(s).
- Travel with assigned teams as needed.



KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES

(1) Knowledge of principles and practices developmental theory and its application to student athletes. (2) Application of principles to diverse populations of students and staff. (3) Knowledge of effective consultation practices. (4) Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships and partnerships. (5) Excellent verbal and written communication skills. (6) Ability to conduct clinical assessments, individual and group therapy, crisis intervention, and sport performance interventions. (7) Ability to stimulate changes in individual, institutional, and corporate behaviors to support the well-being of student-athletes. (8) Ability to facilitate training and group psychoeducational presentations. (9) Ability to demonstrate leadership by communicating, participating, and encouraging support of the institution's sustainability programs. (10) Ability to provide supervision and educate interns/trainees as well as other sports department members.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

- Independently licensed as a social worker.
- Minimum of three to five years working with the college age population.
- Adherence to code of ethics and credentialing requirements for the State of practice.
- Demonstrated experience in providing services to athlete populations post independent licensure.
- Experience in the provision of clinical, psycho-educational and consultative services to student-athletes and staff.
- Application of strengths-based positive psychotherapy and counseling approaches.
- A strong understanding of athletics culture and ability to navigate successfully.
- OR, any equivalent combination of experience and/or education from which comparable knowledge, skills, and abilities has been achieved.
- Commitment to diversity and demonstrated competency in multicultural awareness, LGBTQ sensitivity, knowledge, responsiveness, and application.
- Knowledge of NCAA rules, governance, and Best Practices.
- Accurate documentation and ethical record keeping.



PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS:

- Direct experience working within a college athletic departmental setting.
- Advanced clinical training.
- Advanced sports performance training.
- Knowledge and understanding of alcohol and drug assessments and treatment.
- Knowledge and understanding of eating disorders/disordered eating assessments and treatment.
- Familiarity with trauma informed care.
- Experience assessing and working with learning disabilities.