

HEALTH PROFESSIONS INSTITUTE: ACTIVITY DIRECTOR

Activity Directors work with elderly and people with disabilities, individually, or in groups; programming activities which are intended to improve the quality of life for the individual. The Activity Director is one who treasures the history, respects the talents and needs, and enables the potential and dreams of each resident. Participants are introduced to the educational and professional standards and the state and federal regulations. They learn to function safely and effectively in the prevailing health care climate. The two levels of curriculum, Basic and Advanced are in accordance with the requirements of the National Certification Council for Activity Professionals (NCCAP). Employment in Texas requires completion of the Basic Activity Director Program, (both GERS 1002 and GERS 1066).

BASIC ACTIVITY DIRECTOR



Must be a high school graduate or equivalent with two (2) years of full-time experience in working with the elderly or people with disabilities in a human service or medically related program. Must take GERS 1002 & GERS 1066 concurrently.

GERS 1002-Directing Activities in Long Term Care Environments

Course Description: Exploration of the role of the activity director in long-term care facilities. Topics include the assessment of client needs, development of care plans, design of programs using therapeutic recreation techniques, and the supervision of recreation personnel.

Learning Outcomes: Discuss the regulatory requirements for recreation services in long-term care settings; apply appropriate principles of management to activity program design as well as to staff and volunteer supervision; assess client needs; create care plans based on assessment of client needs; and design leisure activities using a therapeutic recreation model to meet the needs of the client population.

GERS 1066- Activity Director Practicum

Course Description: Practical, general, workplace training supported by an individualized learning plan developed by the employer, college, and student. Activity hours to be completed at a facility as determined by the instructor and student.

Learning Outcomes: As outlined in the learning plan, apply the theory, concepts, and skills involving specialized materials, tools, equipment, procedures, regulations, laws, and interactions within and among political, economic, environmental, social, and legal systems associated with the occupation and the business/industry and demonstrate legal and ethical behavior, safety practices, interpersonal and teamwork skills, and appropriate written and verbal communication skills using the terminology of the occupation and the business/industry.

ADVANCED ACTIVITY DIRECTOR

Enables an Activity Director in a Long Term Care setting to complete partial requirements to become eligible for certification by the National Certification Council for Activity Professionals (NCCAP), the National Therapeutic Recreation Society (NTRS), or the Consortium of Therapeutic Recreation/Activities Certification, Inc.

GERS 2032 Advanced Activity Director

Course Description: An advanced course for activity professionals which includes activity department responsibilities, a system for developing an activity program, administrative practices of the activity profession, and communication techniques to be used in a facility and for dealing with the public.

Learning Outcomes: Describe responsibilities of an activity department within regulatory, legal and ethical, health and safety, and policy and procedures guidelines as they relate to the individualized care plan; develop a system for planning, implementing, and evaluating an activity program; define the role of the activity professional within the parameters of a leader and manager of human and financial resources; demonstrate communication skills in group and interpersonal relationships; and describe the role of an activity professional as a facilitator for improving community relations.



GERS 2066 Advanced Activity Director Practicum

Course Description: Advanced practical, general, workplace training supported by an individualized learning plan developed by the employer, college, and student. To be completed as a volunteer or employee of a local facility, dates and times to be negotiated with employer, instructor and student.

Activity Director Update

Presented every summer, this one-day program is based upon a topic of interest identified during the previous year. It is intended to meet the eight hours of continuing education required each year for maintenance of certification. Approval obtained from NCCAP.

Course Description: An overview of current information pertinent to skills, theory, psychology, and record keeping,

Learning Outcomes: Describe the revisions to the state record keeping system as they apply to the activities director and define all changes in law related to nursing home activities directors.

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

1. Education:

All applicants must submit one copy of High School Diploma or GED equivalent.

2. Immunization Requirements

Beginning Fall 2005, all ACC students who assist in the treatment of patients must meet “Community Standards” concerning state vaccinations requirements. The required vaccinations are listed below. **Vaccinations can take up to 6 months to complete, so students are urged to plan accordingly.**

All applicants must provide a copy of written documentation from a physician for:

- Proof of Varicella (Chicken Pox) immunity as shown by (a) physician documented history of the disease **or** (b) documentation of two immunizations **or** (c) a serum titer confirming immunity.
AND
- Proof of (a) a complete (3 injection series) Hepatitis B Vaccination **or** (b) a serum titer confirming immunity.
AND
- Proof of (a) one (1) Measles, Mumps and Rubella Vaccination (MMR) **or** (b) a serum titer confirming immunity to each disease **or** (c) proof that the student was born prior to January 1, 1957.
AND
- Proof of (a) a second Measles Vaccination (may be a part of a second MMR) **or** (b) a serum titer confirming immunity **or** (c) proof that the student was born prior to January 1, 1957.
AND
- Proof of TB test (PPd skin test or chest x-ray) with a negative reading. (*Test may not be more than 180 days old on the first day of practicum.*)
AND
- Proof of Tetanus vaccination within the last 10 years.

3. Criminal History Background Check...

All ACC students who assist in the treatment of patients must meet “Community Standards” concerning criminal background screening. For additional information visit <http://www.austincc.edu/ce>, (512) 223-7542, or contact a Program Coordinator at 223-7271 for assistance.

Please indicate the date you submitted the request for the vendor to conduct the background check: _____

Month/Day/Year

Tuition and Fees...For specific dates, times, and fees check the *Activity Director* section of the current ACC Course Schedule or go to: www.austincc.edu/ce/schedules.html. For registration questions, call (512) 223-7542.

Financial Aid...For Texas Public Education Grant (TPEG) Financial Aid inquiries, call (512) 223-7547 or www.austincc.edu/finaid. Forms may be obtained from www.fafsa.ed.gov. Only the Basic Activity Director program is on the list of approved courses for financial aid.

Books... Books are available at the ACC bookstore, 12th & Rio Grande.

Accommodations Requests... Students requiring special accommodations during class time for disabilities are required to self-disclose to the Office for Students with Disabilities. <http://www2.austincc.edu/osd/index.html>.

Registration ... Pre-registration is required. You may register in person (cash, check, credit card), by phone (credit card only), mail (check, credit card), or fax (credit card). Payment is due at the time of registration. To register in person, visit: ACC Highland Business Center - 5930 Middle Fiskville Road – Continuing Education - 4th floor; 8:00 am - 8:30pm, Mon-Thurs; 8:00am - 4:30pm, Friday; 7:30am - 4:00pm, Saturday; Closed Sundays. (Building located between Highland Mall and the Greyhound Bus Station, at Hwy 290 and I-H 35). To register by phone: (512) 223-7542; To fax in your registration: (512) 223-7030; To register by mail, complete the registration form found on the last page of the current course schedule or as printed from the web site ... <http://www2.austincc.edu/ce/registration.html> ... and mail to: Austin Community College, Continuing Education - 5930 Middle Fiskville Road, Austin, TX 78752-4390

NOTE: Generally, you will not be notified that your registration and payment have been received by FAX or mail, unless the workshop you requested is canceled or filled. You may confirm your registration by calling the registration number listed above. Refund of tuition can only be made if ACC cancels the course, or if you request a refund by calling the above registration number 24 hours prior to the start of the course.

Updated: 5/11/05