

641—80.9(135) Public health nursing services. Public health nursing is a specialized nursing practice that combines the science and art of public health with the science and art of nursing.

80.9(1) Program purpose. The purpose of this program is to improve the health of the entire community, prevent illness, enhance the quality of life, and provide leadership to safeguard the health and wellness of the community. The program implements core public health functions and essential public health services to reduce, prevent or delay inappropriate institutionalization of consumers and to preserve families.

80.9(2) Scope. The practice of public health nursing is population-based, with the goals of promoting health and preventing disease and disability for all people through the creation of conditions in which people can be healthy. For the purposes of the state grant, public health nursing services include both personal health services and population-based services.

80.9(3) Standards of practice of public health nursing are consistent with the nursing process and include:

a. Assessment. The public health nurse assesses the health status of populations using data, community resources identification, input from the population, and professional judgment.

b. Diagnosis. The public health nurse analyzes collected assessment data and partners with people to attach meaning to those data and determine opportunities and needs.

c. Outcome identification. The public health nurse participates with other community partners to identify expected outcomes in the populations and their health status.

d. Planning. The public health nurse promotes and supports the development of programs, policies, and services that provide interventions that improve the health status of populations.

e. Evaluation. The public health nurse evaluates the status of the population.

80.9(4) Public health coordinator/supervisor qualifications.

a. Individuals performing public health coordination/supervision shall meet one of the following criteria:

(1) Possess a bachelor's degree or higher from an accredited college or university in public health, health administration, nursing or other applicable field and a minimum of two years of related experience; or

(2) Be a registered nurse, licensed to practice by the Iowa board of nursing, who has a minimum of two years of related experience and has completed a course approved by the department within six months of employment.

b. By January 1, 2008, individuals who hold the position of public health coordinator/supervisor on or before June 30, 2007, shall meet one of the criteria in paragraph "a."

80.9(5) Appropriation. The appropriation to each county is determined by the following formula: 25 percent of the total amount to be allocated shall be divided so that an equal amount is available for use in each county in the state. The remaining 75 percent shall be divided so that the share available for use in each county is proportionate to the number of elderly and low-income persons living in the county in relation to the total number of elderly and low-income persons living in the state.