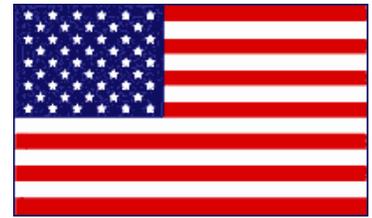




# PORTLAND VA MEDICAL CENTER

Portland, Oregon Division  
 Vancouver, Washington Division  
 Community Based Outpatient Clinics  
 Salem, OR Bend, OR  
 Camp Rilea (Warrenton, OR)  
 Hillsboro, OR East Portland, OR



## NOTICE OF VACANCY

<b>1. Announcement Number</b>  <b>T38-10-0242-ML</b>	<b>2. Title, Series, Grade, Salary</b>  <b>Social Worker FS          GS-185-11          \$60,520 to \$78,674 per annum          (Based on full-time employment)</b>	<b>3. Tour of Duty</b>  <b>8am – 4:30pm          M-F</b>	<b>4. Duty Station</b>  <b>Home Based Primary          Care, Rehab &amp; Long Term          Care, Portland OR</b>
<b>5. Type &amp; Number of Vacancies</b>  <b>Permanent          1 Full-time position</b>	<b>6. Contact</b>  <b>Human Resources Assistant          503-273-5236</b>	<b>7. Opening Date</b>  <b>10/1/2010</b>	<b>8. Closing Date</b>  <b>10/15/2010</b>

### WHO MAY APPLY TO THIS ANNOUNCEMENT:

- Career or career conditional employees, Veterans Canteen Service and permanent Title 38 employees of the Portland VA Medical Center eligible under the interchange Agreement.
- Any US Citizen

### MAJOR DUTIES:

The incumbent provides veterans in the Home Based Primary Care (HBPC) Program with high quality case management, clinical treatment, advocacy, and to coordinate linkage with appropriate VA and community service providers / agencies as needed by the client. This is accomplished in collaboration with other members of the HBPC Team or other interdisciplinary treatment teams as appropriate i.e. Primary Care, CLC etc. The social worker will develop an assessment of the veteran in collaboration with the interdisciplinary treatment team, the veteran, family members and significant others, whenever possible. The goal of the assessment is to highlight the veteran's strengths, limitations, and internal/external supports and service needs in order to optimize the veteran's functional status and safely maintain the veteran in his/her home. The social worker is responsible for developing the social work treatment plan, and setting achievable treatment goals with the veteran/family in collaboration with the HBPC interdisciplinary treatment team members. The social worker will include mental health and psychosocial problems onto the interdisciplinary treatment plan. HBPC social workers will provide treatment planning for mental illness and psychosocial challenges which includes diagnosis, individual psychotherapy and supportive counseling to be provided in the Veteran's home. In addition to in-home psychotherapeutic interventions, social workers will assess, collaborate with the Veteran and interdisciplinary team to determine appropriate referrals to outpatient mental health services, substance abuse/addictions services, day treatment or group therapy services offered through VA or community resources. Throughout the course of treatment the social worker is the subject matter expert on VA and community resources. The social worker will collaborate with other service providers in reassessing the veteran's needs for non-institutional, institutional services/programs and entitlements.

### **THIS POSITION IS IN THE BARGAINING UNIT**

### QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS:

**Eligibility:** Department of Veterans Affairs Qualifications Standards (VA Handbook 5005, Part II, Appendix G39) for GS-185 series applies and may be reviewed in the Human Resources Management Service Office.

#### **Basic Requirements:**

- Citizenship.** Be a citizen of the United States. (Non-citizens may be appointed when it is not possible to recruit qualified citizens in accordance with chapter 3, section A, paragraph 3g this part.)
- Education.** Have a master's degree in social work from a school of social work fully accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE). Graduates of schools of social work that are in candidacy status do not meet this requirement until the school of social work is fully accredited. A doctoral degree in social work *may not* be substituted for the master's degree in social work. [Verification of the degree can be made by going to the CSWE website to verify if that social work degree meets the accreditation standards for a master of social work.]
- Licensure.** Persons hired or reassigned to social worker positions in the GS-185 series in VHA must be licensed or certified by a state to independently practice social work at the master's degree level. Current state requirements may be found on the OHRM website.

**Specialized Experience:** Specialized experience includes, but is not limited to; medical case management, resource identification and referral, identifying patient needs, assessing high risk patients, knowledge of mental health diagnosis and of treatment methodologies, knowledge of psychosocial assessments and, interventions and measuring outcomes.

In addition to the above, the candidates must demonstrate the KSAs below:

(Continued on next page)

## **BASIS OF RATING: (Knowledge, Skills, Abilities (KSAs))**

***Applicants must demonstrate through their experience or education that they possess the following published KSAs(from VA Handbook 5005) for the grade at which they wish to apply (and grades below that grade if applicable):***

- 1.*** Knowledge of community resources, how to make appropriate referrals to community and other governmental agencies for services and ability to coordinate services.
- 2.*** Ability to independently assess the psychosocial functioning and needs of patients, and their family members and to formulate and implement a treatment plan, identifying the patient's problems, strengths, weaknesses, coping skills and assistance needed, in collaboration with the patient, family and interdisciplinary team.
- 3.*** Ability to independently conduct psychosocial assessments and provide psychosocial treatment of a wide variety of individuals from various socio-economic, cultural, ethnic, educational and other diversified backgrounds. This requires knowledge of human development and behavior (physical and psychosocial) and the differential influences of the environment, society and culture.
- 4.*** Knowledge and experience in the use of medical and mental health diagnoses, disabilities and treatment procedures. This includes acute, chronic and traumatic illnesses/injuries, common medications and their side effects and medical terminology.
- 5.*** Knowledge of psychosocial treatment and ability to independently implement treatment modalities in working with individuals, families and groups who are experiencing a variety of psychiatric, medical and social problems to achieve treatment goals. This requires independent judgment and skill in utilizing supportive, problem solving or crisis intervention techniques.
- 6.*** Ability to provide consultation services to other staff about the psychosocial needs of patients and the impact of psychosocial problems on health care and compliance with treatment. Ability to provide orientation and coaching to new social workers and social work graduate students. Ability to serve as field instructor for social work graduate students who are competing VHA field placements
- 7.*** Ability to independently evaluate his/her own practice through participation in professional peer review case conferences, research studies or other organized means.
- 8.*** Knowledge and skill in the use of computer software applications for drafting documents, data management and tracking, especially those programs in use by VHA.

## **CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT:**

This is an Excepted Appointment. Excepted service positions have been excepted from the requirements of the competitive service by law, Executive Order, or by OPM regulation (5 USC 2103 and 5 CFR part 213). Public law No. 108-170 converts this occupational series from the competitive civil service to the Hybrid Title 38 employment system.

Applicants without prior federal service will be appointed at step one of the grade

Although the duty station is shown in this announcement, it may be necessary to utilize the selected person's services at a different location within the Portland VA Medical Center commuting area if conditions require it in the future

Under Executive Order 11935, only United States citizens and nationals (residents of American Samoa and Swains Island) may compete for civil service jobs. Agencies are permitted to hire noncitizens only in very limited circumstances where there are no qualified citizens available for the position.

All information submitted to this VA Medical Center is subject to verification by VetPro.

If you are a male born after December 31, 1959, and are at least 18 years of age, civil service employment law (5 U.S.C. 3328) requires that you must register with the Selective Service System, unless you meet certain exemptions.

A security clearance and a favorable suitability determination are required. Misconduct in prior employment, criminal, dishonest or disgraceful conduct, habitual use of intoxicating beverages, abuse of narcotics, drugs or other controlled substances, or reasonable doubt of loyalty to the United States are examples of reasons an offer of employment may be denied.

Public transit subsidy benefits are available. Carpooling assistance is provided. However, single occupancy parking is limited on main Portland campus.

Eligible employees may be non-competitively reassigned to fill this position as an exception to merit promotion.

Applicants selected for this position may be appointed to a temporary appointment, NTE 13 months, pending completion of boarding process.

This is a developmental position. If selected below the target level, employee may be promoted without further competition upon satisfactory completion of qualification and eligibility requirements.

A drug test may be required for an applicant who is tentatively selected.

A pre-employment physical examination will be required for an applicant who is tentatively selected.

Applicants appointed to direct patient care positions must be proficient in spoken and written English as required by 38 USC 7402(d) and 7407(d).

[VACareers](#) has descriptions of all Title 38 Jobs and their benefits.

This agency provides reasonable accommodations to applicants with disabilities. If you need a reasonable accommodation for any part of the application and hiring process, please notify the agency. The decision on granting reasonable accommodation will be on a case-by-case basis

The United States Government does not discriminate in employment on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, political affiliation, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, age, membership in an employee organization, or

other non-merit factor.

It is the policy of the Department of Veterans Affairs that all Federal wage and salary payments are paid to employees by Direct Deposit/Electronic Funds Transfer (DD/EFT).

#### **HOW TO APPLY:**

##### **Portland VAMC Permanent Employees must submit:**

1. [VAF 4078, Application for Promotion or Reassignment](#)
2. MPQ – Merit Promotion Questionnaire is optional but recommended if you have qualifications pertaining to the position applied for but are not in your OPF

##### **Other VA Permanent Employees must submit:**

1. [VA Form 10-2850c, Application for Associated Health Occupations](#)
2. Resume or CV
3. [OF-306, Declaration for Federal Employment](#)
4. Latest SF-50, Notification of Personnel Action
5. Copies of all current licenses
6. Latest performance appraisal

##### **Non VA Applicants must submit:**

1. [VA Form 10-2850c, Application for Associated Health Occupations](#)
2. Resume or CV
3. [OF-306, Declaration for Federal Employment](#) (January 2001 version or later).
4. Veterans Preference:
  - a. DD-214, Military Discharge Paper (copy must display the required data which includes awards/medals/badges, dates and character of service) (For 5 Point Veteran's Preference).
  - b. [SF-15, Application for 10-point Veteran Preference](#) (December 2004 version or later)
  - c. VA letter or DOD documentation of service-connected disability rating dated 1991 or later.
5. SF-50, Notification of Personnel Action (if applying as a current or former federal employee).
6. Copies of all current licenses, registrations, or certifications (applicable to job).
7. **A copy of your college transcripts**

##### **All application packets must be received in Human Resources by Close of Business (COB) on 10/15/2010.**

Application forms may be obtained in Human Resources Office or on our external website,

<http://www.visn20.med.va.gov/Portland/mc/hr>. **Applications may be placed in our internal email box:**

[PortlandVAJobs@va.gov](mailto:PortlandVAJobs@va.gov) (this email box is to receive applications only. Any questions must still be referred to the Human Resources front desk and will be assigned to the appropriate Staffing Specialist.)

*Applications may be mailed to:*

Portland VA Medical Center, P4HRMS

**Attn: T38-10-0242-ML**

PO Box 1034

Portland, OR 97207

*Or brought in person to:*

Portland VA Medical Center

3710 SW US Veterans Hospital Rd

Building 16, Room 300

Portland OR 97239

#### **APPLICANT'S PLEASE NOTE:**

- Education must be accredited by an accrediting institution recognized by the U.S. Department of Education in order for it to be credited towards qualifications (particularly positions with a positive education requirement.). Therefore, applicants must report only attendance and/or degrees from schools accredited by accrediting institutions recognized by the U.S. Department of Education.
- Applicants can verify accreditation at the following website: <http://www.ed.gov/admins/finaid/accred/index.html>. All education claimed by applicants will be verified by the appointing agency accordingly.
- Foreign Education: To receive credit for education completed outside the United States, you must show proof that the education has been submitted to a private organization that specializes in the interpretation of foreign educational credentials and such education has been deemed at least equivalent to that gained in conventional U.S. education programs.

#### **IMPORTANT NOTICE ABOUT APPLICANT'S RESPONSIBILITY:**

- It is the applicant's responsibility to submit documentation to support his/her application for this position. Applicant is responsible for ensuring that all experience, formal training, award recognition, etc. are documented in the application package. Experience may include voluntary or other non-paid experience in the appropriate field. If you feel that your training record contains information pertinent to your qualifications, then you must submit a printed copy of your training record with your application package. Your training record will become part of the specific vacancy file and will not be filed in Official Personnel Folder. Human Resources Management Division will not photocopy any application material; applicants are responsible for making photocopies prior to submitting applications.
- **It is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure timely receipt of the application, regardless of the method used for submission. The VA assumes no responsibility for the late delivery of applications (i.e. postal service delays). The Portland VA Medical Center will not accept FAX, or emailed applications or applications in a US government envelope.**