

State publication notes urgent need for nurses in rural areas

The November 1987 edition of the Alaska Division of Personnel's Information Service focuses on the urgent need for public nursing applicants, according to the Alaska Division of Personnel.

Recruitment for fish and game vacancies around the state is also featured.

According to Personnel Division spokesmen, there is a critical shortage of nurses nationally, and the need in Alaska is as great, if not greater, than other parts of the country.

The state needs nurses to fill positions at public health centers, especially in rural areas, institutions in Anchorage and Valdez and Pioneers' Homes around the state.

Jean Lucius, assistant chief for Public Health Nursing, says her greatest challenge is finding highly skilled and experienced public health nurses for positions in rural Alaska.

"People in these positions must be prepared. The consequences of error can be deadly," she said. She pointed out that a supervisor may be hundreds or even thousands of miles away, and there's no other assistance available.

Applicants who meet the minimum qualifications for Public Health Nurse III would be suitable for these positions, she said.

A similar recruitment problem exists for the nurse job series. The State Division of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities in the Department of Health and Social Services needs additional applicants for positions at the Alaska Psychiatric Institute in Anchorage and the Harborview Development Center in Valdez.

The Department of Administration needs Nurse I, II and III applicants for positions at its Pioneers' Homes in Anchorage, Palmer, Fairbanks, Sitka and Ketchikan.

Those who want more information on nursing positions may write the Personnel Officers at the Department of Health and Social Services, P.O. Box H-01, Juneau 99811; or the Department of Administration, P.O. Box C, Juneau 99811.

Also recruiting is the Alaska Department of Fish and Game's Division of Boards. There are Fish and Game Regional Regulatory Program Assistant vacancies in Bethel, Fairbanks and Juneau.

"People in these positions represent a key link between the division and local advisory committees, regional councils and communities," said Division Director Beth Stewart.

She explained that the positions are

responsible for developing informational programs aimed at achieving public involvement in the regulatory process.

In Bethel, the department is seeking qualified local area residents who can communicate in the Yup'ik language.

Applications for this position must be postmarked no later than Nov. 31 and addressed to the Personnel Officer, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, P.O. Box 3-200, Juneau 99811.
