

DISABILITY SPECIALIST

KIND OF WORK

Advanced level work in determining eligibility for disability insurance benefits.

NATURE AND PURPOSE

An employee in this class is responsible for investigating and determining eligibility on the most complex cases involving benefits claims. The Specialist concentrates on cases involving complex decisions and legal interpretations considering reconsideration, discontinuances, as well as initial applications. This employee provides general guidance for and training of employees in the class Rehabilitation Disability Examiner. Supervision is received from the Assistant Director.

EXAMPLES OF WORK (A position may not include all the work examples given, nor does the list include all that may be assigned.)

Critically reviews the most difficult and complex cases involving disability insurance benefits determinations.

Determines and authorizes, as necessary, use of public funds to purchase specialized information concerning vocational potential or medical or psychological status of claimants.

Re-evaluates and further develops cases where claims have been previously denied but subsequently appealed; re-evaluates existing claims for possible cessation.

Develops through correspondence or telephone, case materials of vocational personal nature data on clients.

Trains and orients new personnel in eligibility determinations.

Performs related work as required.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES REQUIRED

Knowledge of:

Thorough knowledge of all aspects of the Social Security Law, amendments, operational guides and interpretation as they pertain to eligibility for disability insurance benefits.

Considerable knowledge of the laws and regulations governing vocational rehabilitation, workers' compensation laws, and federal and state legislation as it affects vocational rehabilitation.

Considerable knowledge of medical terminology, physical restoration, and psychological problems of the handicapped.

Considerable knowledge of procedures and findings of new techniques in disability determination.

Ability to:

Establish effective counseling relationships with clients.

Write and communicate effectively.

Establish effective working relationships with state, local, and federal personnel in vocational rehabilitation.

Est.: 6/11/68
Ckd.: 8/92, 4/16

T.C.: 7/11/73
Former Title(s): Rehab Disability
Specialist