CLASS TITLE: Senior Companion

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CLASS: Under direct supervision, provides assistance to frail, sick, and homebound seniors; and performs related duties as required.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES: Provides companionship to frail, sick or homebound seniors who require assistance to remain self sufficient within their homes or apartments; reads to and engages in conversation to discuss topics of interest; assists in completing forms and writing letters; accompanies seniors to the doctor's office; does light grocery shopping and prepares light meals; engages seniors in reminiscing activities.

RELATED DUTIES: Feeds clients; assists clients with getting in and out of bed and walking; monitors medications; provides grief support; encourages exercise; may accompany clients to recreational activities.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

<u>Training and Experience</u>. Willing and able to perform the duties listed above. Due to federal program requirements, individuals considered for employment must be at least 60 years of age and meet federal income requirements.

<u>Knowledge, Skills and Abilities</u>. Good knowledge of facts regarding aging persons. Good knowledge of health issues related to seniors. Good knowledge of home fire and safety tips and first aid techniques.

Ability to assist seniors on and off public transportation. Ability to assist seniors in movement throughout the home, including physical movement from bed to chair. Ability to be alert to clients' physical and mental states.

Good interpersonnel skills. Good home management skills including food preparation. Good reading skills.

Working Environment. Home environment.

NOTE: While the list of essential duties is intended to be as inclusive as possible, there may be other duties which are essential to particular positions within the class.

City of Chicago Department of Personnel June, 1995 (Minimum Qualifications Revised: March, 2008)