

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: This is professional work involving responsibility for occupational therapy casework in a program designed to meet therapeutic needs of selected individuals a school district setting. Responsibilities include evaluating, planning and providing occupational therapy treatment to students in accordance with a referral from a physician or from a review committee. Progress is discussed with the program coordinator, teachers and parents. Work is performed under general supervision of a higher level administrator, doctor or program coordinator. Supervision may be exercised over certified occupational therapy assistants and/or other staff. Performs related work as required.

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES: (Illustrative only)

Performs initial and annual screening, evaluation and consultation for students referred to the program;
Provides therapy to students identified in need of service;
Develops school-based goals, treatment objectives and therapeutic activities and tasks to be incorporated into the student's individualized education plan;
Implements pediatric occupational therapy and/or oversees activities implemented by therapy assistants, providing supervision and guidance as necessary;
Maintains written case notes and other written documentation as required by school policy or by state law;
Attends and participates in staff conferences on students' needs and progress;
Communicates with physicians, teachers, classroom support staff, and other staff who have student contact to ascertain progress or additional needs;
Develops home based programs where appropriate;
Assesses and makes recommendations regarding adaptive and orthotic equipment needs and monitors equipment status;
Maintains daily time sheets and medicaid statistic sheets as appropriate;
Conducts regular staff meetings with therapy assistants to review student progress and to adjust goals and activities as necessary;
Performs a variety of related activities as required.

Typical Work Activities are intended only as illustrations of possible types of work that might be appropriately assigned to an incumbent of this title. Work activities that do not appear above are not excluded as appropriate work assignments, as long as they can be reasonably understood to be within the logical limits of the job.

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST (cont'd)

FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS: Thorough knowledge of the methods, procedures and objectives of occupational therapy, especially as they apply to a pediatric caseload; good knowledge of the principles, objectives and techniques of occupational therapy treatment; working knowledge of human anatomy, kinesiology and physiology as they relate to the evaluation and treatment of patients receiving occupational therapy; working knowledge of the terminology and practices of modern social casework; working knowledge of basic physical and recreational activities; ability to supervise the work of others; ability to relate sympathetically to a potentially difficult client population; ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing; organizational ability; enthusiasm; initiative; resourcefulness; patience; good judgment.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

Possession of license and current registration, issued by the New York State Education Department, as an Occupational Therapist.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT:

Access to transportation may be required to complete possible field work assignments in a timely and efficient manner.