

JOB DESCRIPTION

PHYSICAL THERAPIST

State Job #8291

TITLE: Physical Therapist

REPORTS TO: Director for Special Education

SUPERVISES: N/A

JOB FUNCTION: To provide physical therapy to students in the public school setting.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Obtain physical referral for therapy as well as necessary background medical information on each pupil and maintain ongoing communication link with medical personnel.
- Conduct individual assessment of pupils to include developmental level, status of sensorimotor, neuromotor and musculoskeletal systems, self-help skills equipment needs, and pre-vocational skills.
- Develop goals and objectives based on assessment to enhance motor development and/or prevent secondary problems and/or enhance classroom or vocational function.
- Develop plan to implement individual student goals which includes activities at school, home, or in the community, exercises if indicated, and any equipment needs. Interact with parents and school personnel to integrate these physical therapy goals and plans into the individual educational program.
- Interpret the physical therapy assessment, goals, and program to parents and school personnel and assist them in modifying environments and providing appropriate activities.
- Focus services on the training of parents and classroom teachers in techniques of positioning, relaxation, handling, transfers, motor development, pre-vocational skills, dressing, and feeding.

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DUTIES AND OTHER RESPONSIBILITIES (CONT.):

- Recommend equipment and architectural modifications which will allow pupils to function more independently; oversee proper use and maintenance of equipment in the physical therapy program.
- Document pupil progress and maintains appropriate data/records pertaining to physical therapy services.
- Perform other duties as assigned.
- Maintain regular attendance.

KNOWLEDGE AND ABILITIES:

KNOWLEDGE OF:

- Principles and techniques of physical therapy.
- Laws and regulations concerning medical records and therapeutic services.
- Neurology, anatomy, neuroanatomy and physiology.
- Crafts including materials and equipment required, analysis of physical requirements, analysis of exercise or other contributions as treatment for special disabilities, contraindications for use as treatment for specific disability or when other conditions exist.
- Methods, materials, and equipment used to alter existing or fabricate specialized equipment.
- Safety precautions including hazards associated with client's specific activities.
- Oral and written communication skills.
- Public speaking techniques.
- Research techniques.
- Record-keeping techniques.
- Principles of training and supervising staff.
- Health and safety regulations.
- Interpersonal skills using tact, patience and courtesy.
- CPR.

PHYSICAL THERAPIST

KNOWLEDGE AND ABILITIES (CONT.):

ABILITY TO:

- Provide physical therapy to eligible individuals.
- Determine and evaluate treatment.
- Plan, prepare, and make oral presentations.
- Communicate effectively with families of handicapped individuals.
- Establish and maintain cooperative and effective working relationships with others.
- Maintain records and prepare reports.
- Monitor and evaluate equipment needs.
- Prepare written evaluations and review medical and therapy reports.
- Train and supervise others.
- Read, interpret, apply and explain rules, regulations, policies and procedures.
- Maintain current knowledge of related technological advances and other matters.
- Lift heavy objects.
- Operate office and therapeutic equipment.
- Prioritize and schedule work.
- Meet schedules and time lines.
- Observe health and safety regulations.
- Perform CPR as required.

PHYSICAL DEMANDS

- Work is performed while standing, sitting and/or walking.
- Requires the ability to communicate effectively using speech, vision and hearing.
- Requires the use of hands for simple grasping and fine manipulations.
- Requires bending, squatting, crawling, climbing, reaching.
- Requires the ability to lift, carry, push or pull light weights, up to 30 pounds.

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:

- Graduate of a program in physical therapy approved by the American Physical Therapy Association and two years experience working in pediatric, physical or occupational therapy.

PHYSICAL THERAPIST

LICENSES AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS:

- Valid Physical Therapy license issued by the State of Kentucky.

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Original Date: 02/1995

Revision Date: 07/2011

Revision Date: 07/2012