

Physical Therapy Assistant

Job specifications are intended to present a descriptive list of the range of duties performed by employees in the classification.

Nature of Work

To promote the education of students, by providing treatment services that enhance development of functional motor skills that allow maximum participation in all school activities. These services may include direct and group therapy. This employee reports to the supervising physical therapist, Director of Special Education, or any other designated administrator.

Duties and Responsibilities:

The physical therapy assistant is responsible for implementing therapeutic programs as prepared and documented by the registered physical therapist within the educational setting. Programs focus on the following areas: functional mobility, self-help skills, environmental adaptations, positioning, gross and fine motor skills, balance and coordination, sensory processing, using adaptive equipment, and documentation as needed. Position requires performance of physical tasks and will require the ability to move students to and from the floor, into and out of alternate equipment, lifting up to 40 pounds, and maneuvering wheelchairs. This is an itinerant position that requires travel to various buildings within the school district.

- Assists in determining a student's level of functioning, developing an Individual Education Program for each student, and participates in IEP meetings with parents at the direction of the physical therapist.
- Implements therapy programs and performs other educational related duties as assigned by supervisor.
- Presents inservice training and therapy related topics to parent, teachers, and other support personnel.

Knowledge, Abilities, and Skills:

Ability to:

- ◆ Maintain confidentiality.
- ◆ Effectively implement therapy programs.

Minimum Education, Certification, and Training / Experience

- ❖ Must be of good character.
- ❖ Minimum of Associate's Degree in Physical Therapy. Must be from an approved program. Must be currently licensed to practice in the state of Rhode Island.
- ❖ Pediatric experience necessary.