

COUNTY OF SOLANO

THERAPIST (SENIOR)

Rev. 10/91

DEFINITION:

Under general direction, provides lead supervision to Physical Therapist and Occupational Therapist staff and administers physical or occupational therapy treatments; performs related duties as required.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS:

This class is characterized by the responsibility to (a) provide lead supervision/advanced journey level work in the medical therapy unit of the California Children's Services which is administered by the Solano County Health Services Department and (b) provide therapy to physically handicapped children. Positions in this class are expected to use considerable independent judgment and discretion in performing, depending on credentials, direct occupational or physical therapy with patients as prescribed by a physician. This class is distinguished from the Health Program Coordinator-CSS in that the latter has overall responsibility for the CCS Program, which includes the therapy component.

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES:

Duties may include but are not limited to the following:

1. Provides direct physical and/or occupational therapy services to patients on the basis of physicians prescription; consults with school personnel, parents, physicians and representatives of other agencies.
2. Coordinates program activities by organizing and conducting various clinics for physically handicapped children.
3. Plans, assigns and implements treatment programs and assigns patients to staff therapists after initial assessment of needs; coordinates staff in-service training; evaluates staff performance and quality of services provided to children.
4. Attends conferences and meetings concerning patients, program needs and public relations; maintains case records including case and chart reviews, statistical reports, supplies and equipment.
5. Processes referrals for service related to the medical therapy program so that patients can achieve maximum independence and integration into society.

QUALIFICATION GUIDELINES

Education and/or Experience:

Considerable physical or occupational therapy experience which included providing therapy to children coupled with training of additional experience in and which demonstrates possession of and competency in requisite knowledge, skills and abilities.

Knowledge/Skills/Abilities:

Thorough knowledge of the principle methods, equipment and objectives involved in providing occupational or physical therapy to physically handicapped children.

Considerable knowledge of skeletal anatomy and physiology as related to therapy; mechanical functioning of the body in order to match patients activities to requirements of treatment.

Some knowledge of supervisory principles and practices as related to supervision of physical and occupational therapists.

Skill in observing the effects of placing the child in various positions and in handling the child.

Ability to observe the child in self-care, fine and/or gross motor movements; interpret medical prescriptions into meaningful therapy programs; make decisions and independent judgments; communicate effectively both verbally and in writing; recognize and respect limit of authority and responsibility; research regulations, procedures and/or technical reference materials; organize and prioritize work assignments; lead the work of other therapists; project consequences of decisions; determine and evaluate levels of patient and staff achievement and performance; understand program objectives in relation to program goals and procedures; collect and analyze data to evaluate program effectiveness; draw logical conclusions and make appropriate recommendations; lead the work of others engaged in occupational/physical therapy; secure cooperation and teamwork among staff; promote and implement therapy programs; deal firmly and fairly with clients of various socio-economic backgrounds and temperaments; maintain accurate records and document actions taken; learn and make referrals to local and regional providers of social, medical and/or other specialized services; communicate effectively with parents, doctors, teachers, vendors and other health providers; maintain confidentiality of information.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:

Possession of or ability to obtain a valid Class C California driver's license may be required. Possession of a valid Registered Physical Therapist license issued by the California Board of Medical Quality Assurance or Certificate of Registration as an Occupational Therapist issued by the American Occupational Therapy Association.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION:

Independent travel will be required.

Positions allocated to this class may require bilingual skills.

Selectees for employment must as a condition of employment sign a statement agreeing to comply with Section 11166 of the California Penal Code relating to child abuse reporting.