



NAVAJO COUNTY EDUCATION SERVICE AGENCY
JOB DESCRIPTION

TITLE: Physical Therapist
SERVICE: Unclassified

FLSA: E
REVISED: 7/1/13

SUMMARY: The Physical Therapist provides consultative and direct services to students and staff of assigned SSC member school districts which enhance neuromuscular and/or sensorimotor function, postural control, and student access to their educational curriculum. The employee is directly responsible to the SSC Administrator.

ESSENTIAL JOB FUNCTIONS: *(Essential function, as defined under the Americans with Disabilities Act, may include the following tasks, knowledge, skills and other characteristics. This list of tasks is ILLUSTRATIVE ONLY, and is not a comprehensive listing of all functions and tasks performed by positions in this class.)*

- Administers physical therapy procedures and modalities for the purpose of achieving program objectives.
- Assesses students' gross motor and developmental skills (e.g. perceptual-motor, motor coordination, sensory development, muscle strength, etc.) for the purpose of determining program eligibility and developing recommendations for physical therapy treatment, appropriate assistive devices and/or curriculum access.
- Collaborates with a variety of groups and/or individuals (e.g. parents, teachers, physicians, administration, maintenance personnel, team members, other professionals, etc.) for the purpose of communicating information, resolving issues and providing services in compliance with established guidelines.
- Consults with teachers, parents, other personnel and/or outside professionals for the purpose of providing requested information, developing plans for services, making recommendations and/or coordinating physical therapy services with those of other disciplines.
- Develops and applies treatment plans, interventions and/or educational materials from the IEP for the purpose of remediating students' motor skill deficits and ensuring compliance with regulatory requirements.
- Maintains files and/or records (e.g. progress reports, activity logs, treatment plans, etc.) for the purpose of ensuring the availability of information as required for reference and/or compliance.
- Participates in a variety of meetings (e.g. training, workshops, seminars, IEPs, team meetings, etc.) for the purpose of conveying and/or gathering information.
- Provides direct physical therapy services for the purpose of developing students' motor skills as related to their ability to access school curriculum in compliance with established goals and objectives.
- Responds to inquiries (e.g. parents, teachers, staff, students, etc.) for the purpose of providing information and/or referral as appropriate.
- Screens students for the purpose of determining the need for further individualized assessment.
- Researches resources and methods (e.g. intervention and treatment techniques, assessment tools and methods, community resources, etc.) for the purpose of determining the appropriate approach for addressing student's functional goals.
- Completion of other duties as assigned and relevant to the practice of school-based physical therapy.

KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS:

Specific skill-based competencies required to satisfactorily perform the functions of the job include: applying assessment instruments; operating equipment used in physical therapy strategies; preparing and maintaining accurate records; and adhering to safety practices. Specific knowledge-based competencies required to satisfactorily perform the functions of the job include: stages of child development; current physical therapy treatment interventions; pertinent cods, policies, regulations and/or laws; principles of physical therapy; health standards and hazards; safety practices and procedures; and age appropriate activities.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

The school physical therapist must be a graduate from a program in Physical Therapy accredited by the American Physical Therapy Association. A minimal of 4 years of study is required with a Bachelor's degree. Most candidates will have earned at least a Master's degree (60 graduate units) and in many cases a Doctor of Physical Therapy degree. The physical therapist is required to be licensed by the State of Arizona and maintain fingerprint clearance from the Arizona Department of Public Safety.