

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT

JOB SUMMARY

Assist in providing direct occupational therapy services to children and participate as a team member by assisting in the assessment of infants and young children to determine current levels of motor development, areas of educational concern, and the child's developmental areas of need. Utilize specialized equipment and treatment techniques to facilitate implementation of individual educational programs related to motor skills development.

TYPICAL DUTIES

Assist in providing direct occupational therapy services to infants and young children according to Individualized Education Plan (IEP) and goals. Document therapy received and record progress. Maintain related logs and prepare a variety of reports. Collaborate with District team members to assist with the assessment of infants and young children to determine the nature and extent of motor disabilities. Assist with data collection and the preparation of assessment reports. Participate in the Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP)/IEP meeting to assist in the development and update of occupational therapy plans and goals. Consult with family and staff on the appropriate implementation of educational programs as they relate to the development of motor skills. Recommend appropriate materials, activities, and assistive devices designed to facilitate the development and care of children with motor disabilities. Demonstrate educational and developmental strategies to staff and families. Utilize CPR, first aid techniques as required. Order equipment, supplies, and assessment materials.. Communicate with other therapists and professionals serving young children. Participate in local and state presentations as necessary. Perform related duties as assigned.

JOB REQUIREMENTS

Any combination of education, training, and/or experience which demonstrates ability to perform the required duties. A typical qualifying background would include certification by the American Occupational Therapy Association **or** Possession of an Associates degree in Occupational Therapy. Previous work experience with young children (ages three to twenty-one). Experience working in a variety of settings, including clinic, school, and home; and, experience working as a member of a transdisciplinary/ multi disciplinary team. Experience working collaboratively with families, and in training others in the appropriate implementation of education programs related to development of motor skills is desirable. Must have access to transportation for use in daily responsibilities. Possession of a current certificate in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), issued by American Red Cross or American Heart Association, and a certified Multimedia First Aid Card is required. Maintain up-to-date certificates in first aid and CPR.

Knowledge of:

The intellectual, sensory, and physical development of young children. Techniques used in the assessment and treatment of disabilities. Principles, methods, and equipment used in occupational therapy. Occupational therapy techniques used in the assessment and treatment of disabilities. The educational and developmental needs of young children with specific disabilities.

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Ability to: Assist in the assessments of the developmental status and educational needs of young children. Normal and abnormal development of children. Educational and developmental areas of concern. Work collaboratively in transdisciplinary teams. Work collaboratively with families. Make oral presentations to large and small groups. Communicate effectively, both orally and in writing. Work effectively with individuals from various ethnic and cultural groups.

LICENSE A valid California driver's license and the ability to maintain qualification for district vehicle insurance coverage.

PHYSICAL ABILITY While performing the duties of this job, the employee is regularly required to stand, walk, and talk or hear. The employee frequently is required to use hands to finger, handle, or feel objects, tools, or controls. The employee is occasionally required to sit, reach with hands and arms, pushing, pulling, lifting and carrying supplies and equipment. The employee may be required to restrain students who become physically aggressive.

The employee must occasionally lift and/or move more than 75 pounds. Specific vision abilities required by this job include close vision, distance vision, color vision, peripheral vision, depth perception, and the ability to adjust focus. The selected candidate must be able to perform the duties of a rigorous work schedule and pass a physical examination and drug screen certifying this ability.