

SAN DIEGO COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION
Personnel Commission

CLASS TITLE: **Physical Therapist**

DEFINITION:

Participates as a member of a transdisciplinary team assessing infants and young children to determine current levels of motor development, areas of family concern, and the child's developmental areas of need; recommends and utilizes specialized equipment to facilitate implementation of individual educational programs.

REPRESENTATIVE DUTIES:

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:

Collaborates with transdisciplinary team members to provide individual, in-depth assessment of children to determine the nature and extent of motor disabilities.

Writes assessment reports describing the motor development of young children.

Provides on-site interpretation and summaries of assessment results to families, and facilitates family identification of service plan and goals.

Participates in the Individualized Family Service Plan (IFSP) meeting to develop/update annual goals and short-term objectives.

Consults with family and staff on the appropriate implementation of educational programs as they relate to the development of motor skills.

Recommends and utilizes specialized equipment to facilitate implementation of the IFSP.

Recommends appropriate materials designed to facilitate the development and family care of infants and toddlers with motor disabilities.

Demonstrates educational and developmental strategies to children and families, in natural environments (the home and other community childcare settings).

Suggests appropriate activities to accomplish motor goals set in the IFSP.

Communicates with other therapists and professionals in community agencies serving young children.

Provides training for staff in area of specialty.

Participates in local and state presentations as necessary.

NON-ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:

Performs related duties as assigned.

CREDENTIALS, CERTIFICATES, LICENSES OR OTHER REQUIREMENTS:

A California Physical Therapist license is required. A valid California driver's license is required at the time of appointment.

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:

Training and experience sufficient to demonstrate possession of the knowledge, skills and abilities detailed above. Typical qualifying experience would include: previous work experience with young children (ages birth to three); experience working in a variety of settings including clinic, school, and home; and experience working as a member of a transdisciplinary team. Additional experience working collaboratively with families, and in teaching, is desirable.

KNOWLEDGE AND ABILITIES:**KNOWLEDGE OF:**

Thorough knowledge of:

The intellectual, sensory, and physical development of young children

Techniques used in the assessment and treatment of disabilities

The educational and developmental needs of young children with specific disabilities

The use of specialized equipment for the facilitation of educational programs

ABILITY TO:

Apply physical therapy techniques in the treatment of children with disabilities

Use and care for specialized equipment

Make accurate assessments of the developmental status and educational needs of young children

Work collaboratively in transdisciplinary teams

Work collaboratively with families

Make oral presentations to large and small groups

Communicate effectively orally and in writing

Work effectively with individuals from various ethnic and cultural groups

WORKING CONDITIONS & PHYSICAL ABILITIES:

Duties are typically performed in the home or community child care setting. Drive a vehicle to school sites to provide services to students.

Must be able to hear and speak to exchange information; see to perform assigned duties; sit or stand for extended periods of time; possess dexterity of hands and fingers to operate equipment and perform assigned duties; kneel, bend at the waist, and reach overhead, above the shoulders and horizontally, to retrieve and store files and supplies; lift moderately heavy objects.

Established: 6/92

Revised: 4/96; 07/04; 9/04; 1/12