

LICENSED PHYSICAL THERAPIST ASSISTANT

Classification: Instructional – School Based

Location: Assigned Department

Reports to: District Administrator

FLSA Status: Non-Exempt

Bargaining Unit: OSEA

This job description does not constitute an employment agreement between the employer and employee and is subject to change by the employer as the needs of the employer and requirements of the job change.

Part I: Position Summary:

The Licensed Physical Therapist Assistant (LPTA) assists the Physical Therapist to provide direct therapy to students and consultation to the educational team in the district's classrooms.

Part II: Supervision and Controls over the Work:

The assistant is expected to implement individually designed interventions according to District guidelines and state licensing regulations. The interventions are planned with the supervising therapist. The assistant is expected to review outcomes and modify intervention programs in coordination with the supervising therapist.

The supervising physical therapist defines the level of supervision required in the work environment according to District and licensing board standards.

Part III: Major Duties and Responsibilities (depending on specific assignment):

1. Provides individualized or small group physical therapy to students whose Individualized Education Plans (IEP) contain physical therapy services.
2. Assists and supports the physical therapist to develop students' individualized goals and treatment within the context of the total instructional program by planning with the IEP team.
3. Creates instruction, per licensing allowance, and makes independent decisions in the implementation of goals with students, as directed by the supervising physical therapist.
4. Based on the intervention plan, selects and implements therapeutic interventions to enhance student performance in the areas of movement, safety, and social participation within the school environment.
5. Based on the intervention plan, modifies environment including equipment, materials, devices, and adapts processes.

6. Consults with other education staff, the Physical Therapist, staff from other educational agencies providing services, and parents related to student needs, treatment, and progress.
7. Contributes information to multi-disciplinary team meetings assessing student progress.
8. Collects, records, monitors, and interprets data on students' progress. Continuously monitors through observation and consultation, student progress and the effect of intervention and the need for continuation, modification, or termination. Communicates this information to the supervising physical therapist.
9. Trains and provides on-going support to education staff to implement physical therapy programs and intervention techniques that may be delegated, to include training on proper transitions for students for the safety of the staff member and the student.
10. Frequent driving between schools to meet student needs, up to 30 sites in a month time period.
11. Manages student behavior by utilizing intervention techniques designed by the teacher and/or classroom instructional team.
12. Participates in planning and program development including Occupational Therapist, Physical Therapist, Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant, and Physical Education Teacher(s) and classroom staff.
13. Fabricates and repairs motor equipment for individual students or classroom use.
14. Orders equipment necessary to implement therapy in the education setting. Maintains, organizes, and prioritizes workload and treatment environments, including inventories.
15. Records service delivery information necessary for the district to bill third party medical reimbursement. Documents physical therapy intervention services and maintains administrative records in accordance with state guidelines, school policy, and reimbursement standards.
16. Uses professional literature to make informed practice decisions.

Performs other duties as assigned.

Part IV: Minimum Qualifications:

Incumbents must have successful experience in working with culturally diverse families and communities, or have otherwise demonstrated a commitment to strengthening engagement of a diverse community and skill in communicating with a diverse population.

- Successful completion and graduation from an accredited Associate's Degree Physical Therapy Assistant program, to include successful completion of a state licensure examination.
- Three years' successful experience in the field, to include working with children in a learning environment.
- Maintains current in-state license to practice as a Physical Therapist Assistant, to include completion of 24 CEU's every two years.
- Knowledge of basic features of main physical therapy theories, models of practice, principals, and evidence-based practice.
- Recent successful experience and training in pediatrics and developmental disabilities.
- Ability to articulate the role of the physical therapy assistant and the physical therapist in the intervention planning and intervention process.
- General knowledge of the federal, state, local legislation, regulations, policies and procedures that mandate and affect school-based physical therapy services.
- Ability to select, adapt, and sequence relevant occupations and purposeful activities that support intervention goals.
- Ability to provide physically based interventions to achieve student participation in the school environment.
- Skill in effective oral and written communication.
- Ability to maintain safe environments, equipment, and materials.
- Ability to prepare and maintain accurate records and progress notes and use office and computer equipment and standard office software and student information software.
- Ability to work collaboratively and effectively with staff, students, parents, volunteers, and community members.
- Familiarity with adaptive equipment and technology utilized with students' who have significant mental and physical disabilities.
- Ability to develop and utilize complex scheduling and time management techniques in the daily implementation of therapy in a number of different classroom and school settings.
- Ability to acquire and maintain a valid first aid and CPR card.
- Possess a valid driver license.
- Ability to acquire and maintain current behavioral intervention certification.

- Must be able to maintain and protect confidential student information in accordance with FERPA.

Part V: Desired Qualifications:

- Bilingual and bicultural skills in such common languages to the District (to be determined by the specific position).

Part VI: Physical and Environmental Requirements of the Position:

The physical demands and work environment described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

- The employee must lift and/or move 25 to 50 pounds, and may assist, move, or retrain students with greater weight when required to intervene in therapy and student safety issues, and to transfer or transport adaptive equipment.
- While performing the duties of this job, the employee is frequently required to sit, talk, lift, carry, move about, hear and speak. Employee may be required to perform extensive work at a computer display terminal.
- Specific vision abilities required by this job include close vision, distance vision, color vision, peripheral vision, depth perception, and the ability to adjust focus.
- While performing the duties of this job, the employee may occasionally work in outside weather conditions.
- The employee may be exposed to infectious disease as carried by students, exposed to student noise and learning resource noise levels.
- The employee may be required to travel on school owned or leased vehicles while supervising and assisting students.