Position: Physical Therapist

Job Summary: The School-Based Physical Therapist is responsible for providing therapeutic support and services to students with physical disabilities or developmental challenges that impact their educational experience. Working as part of the educational team, the Physical Therapist evaluates, plans, and implements individualized interventions to help students develop functional mobility, motor skills, and strength, enabling them to participate more fully in school activities. This role requires collaboration with teachers, support staff, and families to create and monitor plans that support student progress in alignment with Individualized Education Plans (IEPs).

Qualifications/Minimum Requirements:

1. Must hold a Bachelor's or Master's Degree from a program accredited by the American Physical Therapy Association as well as the American Medical Association.
2. State licensure as a Physical Therapist, with a valid certification in school-based physical therapy services, is preferred.
3. Strong communication and collaboration skills, with the ability to work effectively within a multidisciplinary team.
4. Knowledge of pediatric physical therapy practices and experience working with children or adolescents.
5. Compassion, patience, and a commitment to supporting students' individual needs in a school environment.
6. A minimum of 3-5 years experience with either school-based or pediatric therapy is preferred.

Reports to: Special Education Coordinators and Assistant Superintendent

Responsibilities:

- Conduct assessments and evaluations to determine students' physical therapy needs and establish goals that support their educational access and participation.
- Develop and implement individualized intervention plans, utilizing exercises and activities designed to improve mobility, strength, coordination, and overall physical functioning.
- Collaborate with teachers, special education staff, and parents to ensure that interventions align with students' educational goals and are integrated into their daily routines.
- Monitor and document student progress, adjust therapy plans as needed, and provide reports to the educational team and families.
- Consult on environmental adaptations and equipment needs to support accessibility and functional independence within the school setting.
- Coordinate, recommend, and implement best practices for assessment and evaluation procedures.
- Facilitate in-service education and professional development for professional staff.
- Advise and consult staff in problematic issues related to Physical Therapy Services.
- Completion of documentation, including, but not limited to:
    - Progress notes/quarterly progress reports

    - Records of attendance
    - Case study components
    - Documents necessary to initiate services
    - Evaluations, reassessments, and screening reports
    - IEP reports and paperwork
    - Billing logs, 3rd party billing information
- Attendance at collaborative conferences when PT services are indicated or suspected.
- Communication of results of evaluation and reports for PT services to the educational staff, parents and students, and other agencies as appropriate.
- Supervision of Physical Therapy Assistants, including:
    - Ensure that regular onsite visits are completed and documented.
    - Discuss intervention strategies and goals.
    - Ensure adequate completion of documentation of services.
    - Provide treatment and intervention guidance to assistants.
- Participate in continuing education to promote personal and staff development.
- Recommend, obtain and maintain equipment needed for therapy goals.
- Other duties as requested by the Assistant Superintendent.

Benefits:

- The O'Fallon Support Personnel Federation Collective Bargaining Agreement outlines the salary and benefits package.
- Professional development opportunities.
- Supportive and collaborative work environment.
- Opportunity to make a positive impact on the lives of students.