

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS:

The work involves responsibility for performing occupational therapy casework in a program designed to meet the needs of individuals referred to the program. The incumbent evaluates, plans and provides occupational therapy treatment to patients in accordance with a referral from a physician or other health care provider. Progress is discussed with the program coordinator, physician and other health care professionals. The work is performed under the general supervision of higher level administrator, doctor, or program coordinator. Does related work as required.

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:

- Implements occupational therapy or oversees activities implemented by therapy assistants, providing supervision and guidance as necessary;
- Observes occupational therapy activities to evaluate staff effectiveness in the provision of service and to evaluate the effectiveness of the activity in providing the necessary therapeutic services for patients;
- Meets with therapy assistants and other staff to discuss the occupational program and its effectiveness, new approaches in the field and problems in treatment;
- Performs initial screening, evaluation and consultation for patients referred to the program;
- Develops goals, treatment objectives and therapeutic activities and tasks to be incorporated into the patient's individualized treatment plan;
- Maintains written case notes and other written documentation as required by State laws or local regulations;
- Attends and participates in staff conferences on patients' needs and progress;
- Meets with physicians and other staff to coordinate occupational therapy treatment, review patient progress and adjust goals and activities as necessary;
- Develops home based programs where appropriate;
- Assesses and makes recommendations regarding adaptive and orthotic equipment needs and monitors equipment status;
- Maintains daily time sheets and Medicaid or Medicare or other insurance statistic sheets as appropriate.

FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:

- Thorough knowledge of the methods, procedures and objectives of occupational therapy;
- Good knowledge of occupational activities;
- Working knowledge of human anatomy, kinesiology and physiology as they relate to the evaluation and treatment of patients receiving occupational therapy;
- Working knowledge of the terminology and practices of modern social casework;
- Working knowledge of basic physical and recreational activities;
- Ability to organize and maintain accurate records and files;
- Ability to understand and interpret complex oral instructions and/or written directions;
- Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with others;
- Ability to communicate effectively both orally and in writing;
- Ability to deal effectively with the public;
- Ability to understand and empathize with the needs and concerns of others.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Licensed and currently registered by the New York State Education Department as an Occupational Therapist.

03/04/1981

04/20/1999

07/17/2009

CLASS: COMPETITIVE