

**COUNTY OF ORANGE
MUNICIPAL/SCHOOL
JOB CLASSIFICATION SPECIFICATION**

CLASS TITLE: PHYSICAL THERAPY ASSISTANT

TITLE #: 1464

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: This is a skilled paraprofessional position involving responsibility for assisting a Physical Therapist with the treatment and prevention of neuromuscular or musculoskeletal disabilities by the application of direct physical therapy procedures. The Assistant applies physical therapy treatments or assists in the application of treatments to handicapped students in a special program of physical activities. The work is performed under the direct supervision of a qualified Physical Therapist who evaluates the student, develops the treatment plan and designates specific responsibility to the Assistant. A Physical Therapist is readily available at all times for direction and assistance. Does related work as required.

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:

Applies heat, cold, electricity, light, water treatments, massage, therapeutic exercise, training in phases of ambulation and other activities according to the Physical Therapist's direction;

Observes, records, and reports students' reactions to treatments and programs;

Prepares, sets up and maintains physical therapy areas and equipment;

Provides for and observes safety precautions during all phases of treatment;

Confers periodically with the Physical Therapist regarding all facets of student care and related activities;

Assists the Physical Therapist in providing consultative services;

Participates with other personnel in the formulation of the students' total health care plans when appropriate;

Inventories, cleans, stores and otherwise maintains supplies and equipment;

Performs record keeping functions related to maintenance and execution of the physical therapy program.

FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGES, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:

Working knowledge of the principles, techniques and terminology of physical therapy; working knowledge of the operation and maintenance of apparatus and equipment used in physical therapy; working knowledge of human anatomy and physiology; working knowledge of the concepts and scope and limitations of physical therapy; sufficient physical strength to support and lift adult patients; ability to follow oral and written instructions; skill in observing and recording students' responses to treatments; physical condition commensurate with the demands of the position.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Must possess and maintain a current registration certificate as a Physical Therapist Assistant from the New York State Education Department.

JURISDICTIONAL CLASSIFICATION: Competitive

REVISED: 7/14/80

REVISED: 8/3/82

REVISED: 1/14/94

REVISED: 1/17/01 MS

REVISED: 5/8/01 MS

LAST REVIEWED:

5/01 MS