

SAN DIEGO UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

POSITION DESCRIPTION

TITLE:	Senior Physical Therapy Specialist	REPORTS TO:	Therapy Services Supervisor
DEPARTMENT:	Special Education Programs Division	CLASSIFICATION:	Classified
FLSA:	Exempt	SALARY GRADE:	063 OTBS
REVISED:	November 1, 2007		

BASIC FUNCTION:

Assist in developing and coordinating specialized school-based physical therapy programs and methods and train therapy staff in their use; act as a resource to staff to provide physical therapy services to students enrolled in or referred to special education programs; lead the work of others and provide physical therapy services as assigned.

REPRESENTATIVE DUTIES: (Incumbents may perform any combination of the essential functions shown below. This position description is not intended to be an exhaustive list of all duties, knowledge, or abilities associated with this classification, but is intended to accurately reflect the principle job elements.)

E = Essential Functions

Assist in developing and coordinating innovative therapy programs, protocols, and methods designed to meet the educationally-related needs of students with disabilities. **E**

Review and recommend evidence-based physical therapy best practices; develop methods of data collection, progress monitoring and program evaluation tools to establish therapy intervention efficacy and its impact on student achievement. **E**

Serve as a resource to district Physical Therapy Specialists, physical therapy consultants, and vendors providing physical therapy services and ensure quality control according to established guidelines. **E**

Assist Therapy Services Supervisor to provide staff orientation and training, and professional development opportunities for therapy and school staff. **E**

Confer with Therapy Services Supervisor on issues such as personnel, work assignments, procedures, materials, and equipment needs. **E**

Assist in the selection of and monitor standard assessment methods. **E**

May provide regular physical therapy services including central individualized education program (IEP) assignments.

Assess student's basic skills and abilities in gross motor function, balance and equilibrium, posture and movement, motor control and coordination, orthopedic status, motor planning, developmental or functional activities, range of motion, postural tone, gait, reflex integration, and kinesthesia. **E**

Assist in developing the student's IEP. **E**

Travel to school sites and other locations as required to provide itinerant therapy support. **E**

Develop individual student base line goals. **E**

Provide assistance to educational staff through consultation, training, and direct individual or group activities. **E**

Monitor therapy received by students and record progress using district-wide applications and other designated reporting formats. **E**

Serve as liaison to district staff, physicians, parents, and other agencies in implementing the student's IEP. **E**

Design and develop adaptive equipment and adjust for proper fit as needed. **E**

Perform related duties as assigned.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:

A combination of training, experience, and/or education equivalent to graduation from an accredited school of physical therapy and California license as a Physical Therapist supplemented by two years of recent, full-time equivalent, paid, supervised physical therapy experience including pediatrics and/or clinical affiliation in pediatrics.

LICENSES AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS:

Possession of a current and valid license issued by the Physical Therapy Board of California to practice physical therapy.

Possession of a valid California driver's license and availability of private transportation (mileage expense allowance provided).

KNOWLEDGE AND ABILITIES:

KNOWLEDGE OF:

Current best practices, standards, and methods used in school-based occupational therapy.

Federal and state laws related to Special Education process and procedures.

Individualized Education Program development and implementation.

Principles, methods, and equipment used in physical therapy.

Child development and growth including neurological and physical dysfunction.

Posture and movement dysfunction.

Technical aspects of field of specialty.

Reading and writing English communication skills.

ABILITY TO:

Train and lead the work of others.

Develop written therapy programs and protocols.

Design and fit adaptive devices.

Administer required assessments and evaluate student progress.

Recommend educationally related treatment objectives.

Operate standard office equipment including microcomputers and related software applications.

Establish and maintain effective working relationships with others.

Plan and organize work.

Analyze situations accurately and adopt an effective course of action.

Meet schedules and time lines.

Maintain records and prepare reports.

Read, interpret, apply, and explain rules, regulations, policies, and procedures.

WORKING CONDITIONS:

ENVIRONMENT:

Indoor, office, community, and classroom settings; driving vehicle to school sites to provide assistance to students and staff.

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS:

Hearing and speaking to exchange information; seeing to perform assigned duties; standing for extended periods of time; dexterity of hands and fingers to operate a computer keyboard and other equipment; kneeling, bending at the waist, and reaching overhead, above the shoulders and horizontally, to retrieve and store files and supplies; lifting and moving moderately heavy objects; assist with student positioning.

Revised 11.01.07--JB

Job Code 6908

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