

## **SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION**

### **JOB TITLE: Physical Therapist**

**REPORTS TO:** Assistant Superintendent or Designee  
**SUPERVISES:** No supervisory responsibilities

#### **DEFINITION:**

Provide an appropriate educational program for selected and eligible students with disabilities; consult with IEP teams; attend IEP meetings; make recommendations regarding appropriate levels and types of services; make recommendations on use of equipment, goals, and specific objectives for students; provide training for teachers and support staff in the classroom; communicate with outside service providers and/or medical personnel as it pertains to the student's progress; keep accurate documentation of supports and services; collaborate with school psychologist as it pertains to assessing the need for physical therapy in order for the student to have educational benefit.

#### **QUALIFICATIONS:**

Required:

1. Graduation from an accredited school of physical therapy with a minimum of a Master's degree.
2. A valid license from the State of California and registration with the American Physical Therapy Association.
3. One year of successful experience in a school-setting or serving school-aged students with disabilities.
4. A valid California driver's license.
5. Ability to Pass DOJ Background/Fingerprint Check.

#### **KNOWLEDGE AND ABILITY:**

1. Knowledge of Special Education Codes and health and welfare regulations governing student safety and treatments.
2. Knowledge of typical cognitive, sensory, social, emotional and physical development in children.
3. Knowledge of disability assessment techniques and educational and development needs of children with specific disabilities.
4. Knowledge of applications of physical therapy techniques in working with children with disabilities.
5. Knowledge of Neuro-Developmental Treatment (NDT) and Sensory Integration (SI) theories and principles.
6. Knowledge of principles of neurology, anatomy, neuro-anatomy, kinesiology, child development, and physiology.
7. Ability to use a variety of methods, techniques and practices in physical therapy.
8. Ability to make accurate assessments of the developmental status and educational needs of children.
9. Ability to develop written assessment reports of a professional quality.
10. Ability to respond to and work with families in a culturally sensitive way.
11. Ability to understand the unique differences and needs of students with disabilities and their families.
12. Ability to work effectively with students, parents, staff, community representatives, and interdisciplinary teams.
13. Ability to set up and maintain therapy tools and equipment.
  1. Ability to meet schedules and time lines.
  2. Ability to drive a vehicle to conduct work.
  3. Ability to maintain regular and reliable attendance.
  4. Ability to work independently, prioritize and manage multiple tasks and effectively apply time management skills.

5. Ability to understand and carry out assignments in a neat, orderly, accurate, and timely fashion following verbal or written instructions with minimal supervision.
6. Ability to exercise sound judgments and decisions and to evaluate the results of those judgments and decisions.

**ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:**

1. Work with students with disabilities and serious health impairments to analyze risk, problem solve effectively and demonstrate a high level of professional judgment when recommending and providing services, making environmental modifications and training staff to manage physical needs at an appropriate level of supervision.
2. Assess referred student's skills and abilities in orthopedic status, quality of movement and postural control, and gross motor functioning and independence in mobility and access the educational environment.
3. Assess individual needs, establish realistic and appropriate goals and objectives, and design and implement a program for each student.
4. Monitor and assess physical therapy services and programs for educational effectiveness and operational efficiency.
5. Utilize treatment procedures individually designed to maintain or improve a students' skills.
6. Assist in the development of students' IEPs, including goal development. Assist IEP teams in identifying the physical therapy needs of the students in the educational setting.
7. Provide consultative assistance to the classroom teacher and other staff.
8. Provide demonstrations of exercises and activities for classroom teachers and parents.
9. Plan and conduct a system of continuous evaluation of each student's progress.
10. Assist in assuring related activities comply with established standards, requirements, laws, codes regulations, policies and procedures.
11. Provide assistance to staff members in interpreting the abilities and needs of individual students.
12. Provide Professional Development in appropriate skill areas.
13. Recommend adjustments in the school environment when needed to provide for student success and access.
14. Train staff to lift, move, and position students with disabilities up to age 22 who may weigh 150 pounds or more.
15. Perform related duties as required within the scope and skill level of the classification.

**ENVIRONMENT:**

1. Indoor work environment.

**PHYSICAL DEMANDS:**

Of this position are, but not limited to the following:

1. Mental acuity to perform these tasks, interpret and implement rules relating to the program, make sound decisions and judgments, evaluate results of such decisions and judgments, and to make determinations relative to the effective performance of the tasks.
2. Facility to sit at a desk, conference table or in meeting rooms of various configurations for extended periods of time.
3. Facility and stamina to sit and stand alternately for up to 7 1/2 hours.
4. Facility to see and read lessons, books, rules and policies, and other printed matter, with or without vision aids.
5. Facility to hear and understand speech at normal room levels, on the playground, and to hear and understand speech on the telephone.
6. Manual dexterity to operate a telephone, and operate audio-visual and other classroom equipment and teaching aids using both hands.

7. Facility to speak in audible tones so that others may understand clearly in normal conversations, on the playground, in training sessions, and other meetings without a noticeable speech impairment.
8. Physical agility to lift 25 pounds to shoulder height, and 50 pounds to waist height; and to bend, to stoop, to walk on uneven terrain, to climb stairs, and to reach overhead.
9. Physical agility to lift and carry a handicapped child weighing up to 80 pounds; to position a student who may weigh 150 pounds or more; and to manipulate wheelchairs and orthopedic devices.
10. Facility to drive a car.

Grade Allocation: Classified Unrepresented: \$325 - \$399.71 per day
Adopted: 7/26/17
Revised: