

GENERAL INFORMATION

Title:	Physical Therapist	Union Status:	TIE
Department:	Student Services	Work Year:	183 Day
Location:	District Schools	Reports To:	Nursing Services Assistant Director
ISBE Classification/Code:	360	Evaluation:	Annually by Building Administration
FLSA Status:	Exempt	Evaluation Responsibilities:	None
Salary:	Current Contract	Benefits:	Current Contract

GENERAL RESPONSIBILITIES: As a member of a multidisciplinary school team, the Physical Therapist assists in identifying students with physical disabilities, and provides support to the student's Individualized Education Program (IEP) or Section 504 Plan. Physical Therapists provide therapeutic interventions that promote motor development, functional mobility and safe access and participation in the student's educational program. This position requires direct interaction with students, as well as the development and implementation of educational plans with teachers, administrators, and parents.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:

- Communicate effectively and professionally with parents/guardians, staff and students.
- Utilize technology to generate reports and communicate with staff, parents, and students.
- Perform appropriate motor, mobility and safety assessments of students.
- Maintain student records, including assessments, data collection, therapy, progress notes, attendance, etc.
- Supervise the safety of students.
- Provide information and instruction to staff and parents which may include: interpretation of assessments and recommendations; explanation of potential impact of development, medical and/or sensory-motor problems on school performance; instruction in the physical management of students, such as safe lifting, positioning, assisted ambulation, gross motor programs, vocational tasks, leisure activities, and/or equipment use.
- Provide recommendations on selecting, modifying or customizing adaptive equipment and assistive technology to promote student mobility and ensure safety.
- Prepare, participate and share expertise in team meetings, department meetings, problem-solving meetings, and student meetings.
- Collaborate with the educational team and parents/guardians on the development, implementation, and evaluation of instructional plans to serve the needs of students in an efficient, equitable and culturally competent manner.
- Research resources and methods to ensure best practice.
- Select and provide therapy, modifications, strategies and accommodations that facilitate inclusion and support students' educational programs.
- Support families with information and recommendations of activities/programs that promote development and generalization of gross motor and/or mobility skills.
- Consult with outside professional agencies/service providers for coordination of therapy, when appropriate.
- Supervise certified physical therapy assistants.
- Follow policies and procedures established by CCSD15.
- Understand and protect student confidentiality according to federal, state and local regulations.
- Assume responsibility for professional growth.

- Maintain appropriate certification/licensure/standards of practice.
- Adhere to professional, ethical, and legal standards for the practice of Occupational Therapy in the schools, as dictated by associated organizations, e.g., ISBE, APTA, and Illinois PT Practice Act.
- Other duties as assigned.

JOB REQUIREMENTS: MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

- Knowledge of the philosophy, principles and practices of Physical Therapy as it relates to school-based practice.
- Knowledge of specialized equipment related to adaptive equipment, technology and positioning, and skills to use appropriately.
- Knowledge of typical and atypical motor development.
- Knowledge of current federal and state laws related to the education of students with disabilities.
- Ability to present ideas effectively, both orally and in written form, complete evaluations within specified timeframes, and make data driven decisions for activities and interventions.
- Ability to independently problem-solve, create schedules and manage time.
- Ability to communicate and work collaboratively with students, parents and professional staff.
- Ability to travel between district buildings as necessary.
- Physical ability to provide therapy to students ages 2 through 15.

EDUCATION, CREDENTIALS and/or EXPERIENCE:

- Current licensure from the Illinois Department of Professional Regulation as an Physical Therapist
- Current certification from the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy (FSBPT) or American Board of Physical Therapy Specialties (ABPTS)
- Pediatric and special education experience preferred

Physical Demands and Work Environment:

While performing the duties of the job, the employee is frequently required to sit; to use hands and fingers to handle or feel; and to talk or hear. The employee is regularly required to reach with hands and arms. The employee is regularly required to stand and walk. The employee must lift and/or move frequently up to 20 lbs and occasionally up to 35 lbs. Specific vision abilities required by this job include: close vision, distance vision, peripheral vision, depth perception, and ability to adjust focus. The employee regularly produces written work types using a keyboard.

In the work environment, the employee is regularly exposed to video display and regularly works in classroom/office environmental conditions. The employee occasionally works in the evenings or on weekends. The employee is occasionally exposed to outdoor weather conditions and occasionally works with the use of a personal/district vehicle. The employee will have contact with the public which requires appropriate demeanor and apparel. The noise level in the work environment is usually moderate.

The physical demands and work environment described are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

Reviewed/Revised: April, 2021

The statements in this job description are intended to describe the general nature and level of the work to be performed by (an) individual(s) assigned to this position. They are not an exhaustive list of all duties and responsibilities related to the position. This job description will be reviewed periodically as duties and responsibilities change with the business necessity and School Board Policy and procedures. Essential and marginal job functions are subject to modification.