

THERAPY AIDE

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: This is non-technical work involving the performance of routine housekeeping and helper tasks in the conduct of a facility's occupational or physical therapy program. The work is performed under the instruction and supervision of a qualified Therapist and depending on staffing patterns of the facility, a Therapy Assistant. Incumbents receive on-the-job training in routine therapy related duties and procedures. Does related work as required.

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:

- Maintains treatment areas in clean and orderly manner;
- Cleans, repairs, and stores therapy equipment and supplies;
- Attends treatment team meetings as required;
- Prepares simple records and reports as required.

When assigned to Occupational Therapy:

- Assists patients* in carrying out maintenance regimes as prepared by an Occupational Therapist;
- Prepares and sets up materials and equipment for occupational therapy treatment purposes;
- Observes patients and informs an Occupational Therapist or Occupational Therapy Assistant of any changes in patients' responses to treatment or their maintenance regimes;
- Assists in ordering and maintaining an inventory of supplies;
- Prepares patients for treatment and transports or accompanies them to treatment areas.

When Assigned to Physical Therapy:

- Prepares patients for treatment and transports or accompanies them to treatment areas;
- As assigned, transports and adjusts physical therapy equipment;
- Assists patients with exercise movements or in changing position during treatment;
- Assists a Physical Therapist or physical Therapy Assistant in restorative and rehabilitative treatments;
- Helps patients in carrying out their maintenance programs as directed by a Physical Therapist;
- Observes patients for safety and comfort and notifies Physical Therapist or Assistant of any change in patients' conditions.

FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGES, SKILLS, ABILITIES, AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS: Ability to acquire a working knowledge of the basic principles and terminology related to the therapy program in a health care facility; ability to acquire a working knowledge of the operation and maintenance of apparatus and equipment used in the therapy program; ability to work with the ill, aged, and handicapped persons; ability to observe and communicate patients' responses to treatment; ability to prepare and maintain simple non-medical forms and reports; ability to follow oral and written instructions; sufficient physical strength to lift and support adult patients; physical condition commensurate with the demands of the position.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: None are required.

* *The term "patient" should be changed to "resident" when position is used in health-related facilities.*

CATTARAUGUS COUNTY CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

Adopted: 10/30/80