

Physical Therapy Assistant (PTA)

QUALIFICATIONS:

Certification:

- Graduate of a two-year college level physical therapy assistant program approved by the Illinois Department of Professional Regulation
- Certification as a Physical Therapy Assistant
- State of Illinois license as a Physical Therapist assistant
- Individual is physically capable of performing the essential duties of the job

REPORTS TO:

Direct Supervisor: Registered Physical Therapist

VISION:

The PTA applies professional understandings of child motor development and pathology, service delivery options, and special education law and regulations. The PTA carries case management responsibility for all students identified as eligible for physical therapy special education services and carries out physical therapy procedures and related duties. The PTA consults with administrators, teachers and parents concerning at-risk and IEP-eligible students.

JOB GOALS:

- Assist and work under the supervision of a Physical Therapist in implementing physical therapy treatment programs as established by the licensed physical therapist.
- Minimize or eliminate student physical therapy deficits to enable students to access and benefit from the school environment.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Administration of physical therapy procedures that is commensurate with education and training under the direction and supervision of the registered physical therapist. These services **shall not include:**

- Interpretation of referrals
- Evaluation
- interpretation of data pertinent to said evaluation
- Planning or major modification of student's physical therapy programs.
- These services **may include**:
 - Administration of active and passive therapeutic exercises and positioning
 - Assistant in gross motor and pre-ambulation activities, transfers, ambulation, and daily living skills
 - Assistance in training in the use and care of appliances and supportive devices such as prostheses, orthoses, crutches, walkers, and wheelchairs
 - Assist the Registered Physical Therapist in an evaluation when needed
- Document involvement with students through departmental paperwork
- Participate in full and individual conferences IEP meetings and team meetings regarding students followed by the P.T.A.
- Meet with the registered physical therapist regarding new referrals, possible evaluations, planning and implementing therapy plans, and reviewing progress of served students
- Consult with educational staff and parents regarding therapy needs
- Monitor adaptive equipment needs and maintenance
- Maintain and enhance professional competency by participating in informal and formal continuing education
- Formulate and write IEP goals and objectives and other reports under the supervision of the registered physical therapist
- Complete IEP paperwork utilizing H.E.L.P. or other software
- Effectively communicate, both in written and verbal form, with educational staff, students, parents, and the medical community
- Refer students to motor clinic, gathering all information, and schedule with parents and staff
- Be physically capable of lifting required in student transfers and treatment sessions while applying principles of safety to student and self
- Serve as a potential person to perform physical restraint to ensure student and staff safety
- Maintain the same high level of ethical behavior and confidentiality of student information as expected of fully licensed teachers
- Other appropriate duties as assigned.

TERMS OF EMPLOYMENT:

Work Day:

7.5 hours per day

Work Year:

180 DAYS.

Bargaining Unit:

Bargaining Unit

Salary and Benefits:

Per Contract

EVALUATION:

Performance of this job will be evaluated in accordance with administrative procedures and established contractual protocols.