
Position:	Physical Therapist	FLSA:	Exempt
Department/Site:	Special Education	Salary Grade:	50
Reports to/Evaluated by:	Director of Special Education	Salary Schedule:	Classified Management

SUMMARY

Provide physical therapy assessment and treatment for special education students enrolled in educational programs; provide in-service training, and promote motor development and student’s participation in everyday routines and activities that are part of the educational program.

DISTINGUISHING CAREER FEATURES

The Physical Therapist is required to correct, facilitate or adapt the student’s functional mobility, accessibility and use of assistive devices, and equipment.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Conducts assessments of students to determine eligibility for physical therapy.
- Evaluates and provides physical therapy services to students with special education eligibilities.
- Reviews reports from health care providers requesting physical therapy and coordinates physical therapy services with students’ health care providers.
- Collaborates with District medical personnel to coordinate medical care protocols and acts as a resource to school personnel in interpreting physical therapy services.
- Works with staff at school sites and District offices in prevention and intervention strategies.
- Confers with staff at school sites and District offices regarding student access and school site accessibility.
- Develops and re-evaluates students’ individual physical therapy plans on a regular basis as per district guidelines.
- Provide present level of performance for use in Individual Education Plan (IEP) committees, attends IEP meeting as necessary, and maintains progress notes on student records.
- Supports the safe transportation of students.

QUALIFICATIONS

Knowledge and Skills:

- Typical cognitive, sensory, social, emotional and physical development in children;

- Techniques used in the assessment of children with disabilities;
- Educational and development needs of children with specific disabilities; and
- Application of physical therapy techniques in working with children with disabilities.

Abilities:

- Use a variety of scientifically based research methods, techniques and practice in physical therapy;
- Make accurate assessments of the developmental status and educational needs of children;
- Develop written assessment reports of a professional quality;
- Respond to and work with families in a culturally sensitive way;
- Understand the unique differences and needs of students with disabilities and their families.
- Work effectively with district personal, community representatives, and interdisciplinary teams;
- Participate in the IFSP and IEP team process;
- Make oral presentations to large and small groups;
- Communicate effectively orally and in writing;
- Properly use and care for the materials and equipment employed in performing services as a physical therapist; and
- Work independently with little direction.

Physical Abilities: Sitting or standing for extended periods of time; reaching overhead and horizontally; kneeling or crouching; hearing and speaking to exchange information; seeing to observe student symptoms and conditions; occasionally lifting moderately heavy students or objects; dexterity of hands and fingers to provide physical therapy services; may be required to lift up to 50 lbs. without assistance and over 50 lbs. with assistance.

Education and Experience: Requires a bachelor's or master's degree, or doctorate in Physical Therapy from a college or university accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Physical Therapy Education (CAPTE). One year work experience providing physical therapy services. Experience working with children and youth with special needs, birth to twenty two years old is preferred. Persons with the experience, knowledge and abilities as stated are considered to have the necessary education.

Licenses and Certificates: A current valid Physical Therapy license issued by the Physical Therapy Board of California, A valid California Driver's License, and proof of insurance.