

PHYSICAL THERAPIST

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: This is a professional position involving responsibility for evaluating, planning and providing physical therapy treatment to patients in accordance with a written prescription or referral from a physician who provides medical direction. The work is performed under the general direction of a Senior Physical Therapist, or if there is no senior position, to the facility administrator for the operation of the department. Supervision may be exercised over the work of Physical Therapy Assistants, Physical Therapy Aides and clerical employees assigned to the service. Does related work as required.

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:

Evaluates the degree of function and disability of patients unless contra-indicated by his professional judgment or a doctor's admission notes;

Performs physical therapy procedures upon the written order or referral of a licensed physician;

Participates with other personnel in the formulation of the patient's total care plans;

Participates in the selection of personnel in the physical therapy service, assigns their duties and provides supervision;

Develops or assists in the development of physical therapy policies and procedures;

Confers periodically with a supervising Physical Therapist and physicians regarding all aspects of patient care and related activities;

Assists in the development of, instructs and participates in the facility in-service education program;

Records on patient's charts all physical therapy evaluations, progress notes, consultation and discharge summaries;

Maintains program records including, but not limited to, the service budget and statistical reports of the frequency and types of treatment as well as the number of patients treated.

FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGES, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:

Good knowledge of the principles, techniques and practices of physical therapy;

Good knowledge of the operation and maintenance of apparatus and equipment used in physical therapy;
Good knowledge of pathological conditions and socioeconomic factors affecting a patient's disabilities;
Working knowledge of community resources applicable to physical therapy;
Ability to plan and supervise the work of others;
Ability to get along well with others;
Physical condition commensurate with the demands of the position.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

- A) Completion of a course of study approved by the New York State Education Department as qualifying for Physical Therapist and licensure to practice as a Physical Therapist in New York State; or
- B) Completion of a course of study approved by the New York State Education Department as qualifying for Physical Therapist and a temporary permit* to practice as a Physical Therapist in New York State.

EXEMPTIONS:

Section 6736 (b2) of New York State Education Law, Exempt persons: This article shall not be construed to affect or prevent a physical therapist graduate of an approved program from engaging in clinical practice under the on-site, but not necessarily direct personal supervision of a licensed physical therapist provided the graduate has: (a) applied and paid a fee for the licensing and examination, (b) applied and paid a fee for the **temporary permit**. This exemption shall not extend beyond ninety days after graduation.

Candidates with a temporary permit will receive a temporary appointment.

Section 6735 (c) of New York State Education Law, Limited Permits: Limited permits shall be for six months and the department may for justifiable cause renew a limited permit provided that no applicant shall practice under any limited permit for more than a total of one year.

Candidates with a limited permit will receive a permanent appointment.