

## PHYSICAL THERAPY ASSISTANT

GENERAL STATEMENT OF DUTIES: Assists the Physical Therapist in the provision of treatment to students; does related work as required.

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: Under the supervision of a licensed Physical Therapist, an incumbent of this class is responsible for closely assisting the professional Physical Therapist in the provision of functional treatment, maintenance and supportive programs to students. The Physical Therapy Assistant, under the direction of the physical therapist, is the only paraprofessional who provides physical therapy interventions. Incumbent documents all information in student records. Supervision is not a responsibility of this class.

### EXAMPLES OF WORK: (Illustrative Only)

Carries out physical therapy procedures by working with students individually or in groups to provide treatment of a disability;

Confers with Physical Therapist regarding all facets of student care, including, but not limited to, all matters concerned with questions, problems and progress relating to physical therapy programs;

Assists in the development of treatment protocols;

Assists in the selection of appropriate activities for each student;

Prepares and sets up physical therapy treatment apparatus and instructs students in proper use of equipment;

Participates with other personnel in the formulation of the students' total health care plan;

Observes, records and reports the reactions of students to physical therapy treatment and programs;

Records notes on each student's progress in physical therapy activities;

Attends staff meetings and in-service training as required.

REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND ATTRIBUTES: Working knowledge of the principals, techniques and terminology of physical therapy treatment procedures; working knowledge of physical therapy materials and equipment and their appropriate application to a variety of disabilities; ability to work effectively with the physically and mentally disabled; ability to work well with treatment team members; ability to observe, record and report responses to treatment; ability to instruct and direct students in their daily activities; manual dexterity; physical condition commensurate with the demands of the position.

MINIMUM ACCEPTABLE TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE: Possession of a license and current registration issued by the New York State Education Department, to practice as a Physical Therapy Assistant.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENT FOR APPOINTMENT IN SCHOOL DISTRICTS:  
In accordance with the Safe Schools Against Violence in Education (SAVE) legislation, Chapter 180 of the Laws of 2000, and by the Regulations of the Commissioner of Education, candidates for appointment in school districts must obtain clearance for employment from the State Education Department prior to employment based upon a fingerprint and criminal history background check.