

PHYSICAL THERAPIST



Department:	Special Education
Reports To:	Director of Special Education or Assistant Director of Special Education
Group/FLSA Status:	Certified Staff (CSA) / Exempt (Professional)
Revised:	12/18/2017

SUMMARY: *(Brief description summarizing the overall purpose and objectives of the position.)*

The licensed Physical Therapist (PT) evaluates students who have a variety of needs related to neuromuscular, musculoskeletal, sensorimotor, or cardiopulmonary conditions, which affect their ability to access school. The PT is responsible for developing, implementing, and/or monitoring therapeutic programs and providing consultation to school staff and parents in order for the student to benefit from special education.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS: *(Typical tasks but not all inclusive – major duties of the position.)*

- Plans and provides intervention specific to each student's needs;
- Provides programming supervision to Physical Therapist Assistants;
- Evaluates/screens students to determine the student's functional abilities and needs within the student's educational setting and helps determine the level of service/intervention that is appropriate for each student;
- Communicates with district personnel, students, care providers, parents, etc. Participates in meetings as requested. Serves as a liaison with the medical community and agencies on student issues related to physical therapy services;
- Supports parents of children with disabilities in understanding the role of physical therapy services in schools and how to access school or community resources;
- Consults with teachers and parents regarding appropriate motor activities, self-help skills and special equipment or assistive technology devices as necessary;
- Provides student specific technical support. Adapts, modifies or recommends specialized equipment to facilitate student performance and supports classroom personnel to effectively use classroom based technology and assistive technologies to facilitate student success.
- Provides professional development for school personnel on prevention of injuries, proper handling and positioning of students, equipment use and development in children with disabilities, and barriers that may limit student access as it impacts a student's success at school, and other relevant topics.
- Submits data for third party pay as required;
- Adheres to all due process procedures and compliance requirements and ensures student and family confidentiality;
- Provides good public relations and customer service with member districts, staff, parents and the general public;
- Follows all policies and regulations;
- Regular and prompt attendance is essential;
- Performs other duties as assigned.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES: *(Minimum competencies for job performance.)*

- Knowledge of third party billing requirements;
- Ability to demonstrate confidentiality;
- Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with students, parents, school and service cooperative staff, and outside agencies;
- Ability to handle a variety of assignments or problems independently;
- Ability to collect, read, summarize, compare, and apply data;
- Ability to communicate effectively, both verbally and in writing, with students, parents, school and service cooperative staff, and other agency personnel;
- Ability to present to small and large groups;
- Ability to use technology and related software.

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE: *(Minimum level of education and experience required.)*

- BA or BS Degree.

LICENSES, CERTIFICATES, AND REGISTRATIONS: *(Minimum required to perform the job.)*

- Minnesota licensure as a Physical Therapist from the Board of Physical Therapy;
- Valid Driver's license.

SUPERVISION: *(Level of supervision received and supervision exercised/size of group supervised.)*

- Work is performed under the supervision of the Director of Special Education or Assistant Director of Special Education;
- May provide supervision to Physical Therapist Assistants (PTA).

WORKING CONDITIONS: *(Physical/sensory requirements and environmental conditions.)*

- Serves more than one school district;
- Considerable business travel is required;
- Work may require long hours including early morning, evening, and weekend activities.
- Work is performed during the traditional school year and may include some additional days during the summer.
- This is heavy work requiring considerable physical effort working continuously with average and frequently with heavy weight or frequent requirements for long periods in difficult work positions, or constantly to lift, carry, push, pull or otherwise move objects, including the human body, and a negligible amount of force constantly to move objects; work requires physical conditioning and endurance necessary to provide direct therapeutic services to a variety of students from birth to 21 in their natural environment; work requires stooping, reaching, standing, walking, fingering, grasping, and repetitive motions; vocal communication is required for expressing or exchanging ideas by means of the spoken word; hearing is required to perceive information through normal spoken word; visual acuity is required for preparing and analyzing written or computer data, inspections involving small defects and/or small parts, operation of machines, determining the accuracy and thoroughness of work, and observing general surroundings and activities; the worker is subject to inside and outside environmental conditions and may be exposed to bloodborne pathogens.

The information contained in this job description is for compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and is not an exhaustive list of the duties performed for this position. The individuals currently holding this position perform additional duties and additional duties may be assigned. The physical demands and work environment describe here are representative of those that must be met or will be encountered while performing the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

This job description does not constitute an employment agreement between the SWWC and employee and is subject to change by the SWWC as the needs and requirements of the position change.