

SPEECH THERAPIST

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: The work involves responsibility for the evaluation and therapeutic treatment of speech connected or language disorders for children in the Pre-school Handicapped Children's Program administered by the Public Health Nursing Service. An employee in this class evaluates children for organic and functional speech, stuttering, voice and/or language disorders and administers appropriate corrective therapy. Work is performed under the general supervision of the Public Health Director, who allows the incumbent latitude for the exercise of independent judgment in making evaluations and planning an appropriate program of therapy. The work may involve instruction and technical supervision of subordinate technical and professional employees but is not a critical function of the job. Does related work as required.

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:

- Administers diagnostic tests for articulation, auditory discrimination, stuttering, voice and language disorders to children;
- Reviews and evaluates the results of diagnostic tests and schedules therapy sessions for children with speech and language connected disorders;
- Administers appropriate therapy using specific methods and exercises in individual and small group therapy sessions;
- Prepares written evaluations and periodic progress reports for each child in therapy;
- Serves as a resource person for families and professionals involved in the speech therapy program;
- Prepares budget items and orders and maintains supplies and equipment used in the speech therapy program.

FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGES, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS: Good knowledge of speech and language disorders; good knowledge of the principles, objectives and techniques of speech, voice and language therapy; good knowledge of diagnostic testing materials and the equipment used in making evaluations and in therapy treatments; ability to relate well with clients, including children; physical condition commensurate with the demands of the position.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State registered college or university with a Master's Degree in speech pathology, speech therapy, communication disorders or a closely related field.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS: Eligibility for certification of clinical competence from the American Speech and Hearing Association at time of application. Possession of certification at time of appointment.

Competitive Class

Adopted 09/13/1995 Personnel Officer