

## OCCUPATIONAL THERAPIST

**GENERAL STATEMENT OF DUTIES:** Provides occupational therapy treatment to patients\* in a health care facility; does related work as required.

**DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS:** This is a professional position involving responsibility for evaluating, planning and providing occupational therapy treatment to patients in accordance with written prescription or referral from a physician who provides medical direction. The Occupational Therapist is responsible to a Senior Occupational 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 Occupational Therapy Assistants, Occupational Therapy Aides and clerical employees assigned to the service.

**EXAMPLES OF WORK:** (Illustrative only)

- Performs occupational therapy procedures upon the written prescription or referral from a physician, utilizing a creative activity which may be manual, industrial, recreational or educational designed and/or adapted to correct or remedy any disability;
- Evaluates the degree of function and disability of patients unless contraindicated by professional judgment or a physician's admission notes;
- Develops a treatment plan based upon his findings, short and long term rehabilitation goals and in accordance with the physician's diagnosis, prescription or referral;
- Records on patients' charts all evaluations, re-evaluations, progress notes, consultations and discharge summaries;
- Participates in the selection of personnel in the occupational therapy service, assigns their duties and provides supervision;
- Fabricates and applies hand splints, trains patients in the use of adaptive assistive devices and/or self-help techniques to achieve maximum independence;
- Participates with other facility personnel in the formulation of patients' total care plans;
- Develops or assists in the development of occupational therapy policies and procedures;
- Confers periodically with a Senior Occupational Therapist and physicians regarding all facets of patient care and related activities;
- Assists in the development of, and instructs and participates in the facility's in-service education program;
- Maintains program records including but not limited to the service budget, and statistical reports of the frequency and types of treatment and number of patients treated.

**REQUIRED KNOWLEDGES, SKILLS AND ABILITIES:** Good knowledge of the principles, techniques and practices of occupational therapy; good knowledge of the operation and minor maintenance of apparatus and equipment used in occupational therapy; working knowledge of community resources available to support or supplement the occupational therapy program; ability to evaluate, plan and execute treatments for patients; ability to plan and supervise the work of others; ability to get along well with others; good physical condition.

**ACCEPTABLE TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE:** Licensed and currently registered by the New York State Education Department as an Occupational Therapist.

\*The term "patient" should be changed to "resident" when position is used in health related facilities.

Agreed to by Municipal Service Division and State Health Department, July, 1976. Based on NYS Hospital Code.