



**Job Title:** Physical Therapist

### **Position Description**

*To perform this job successfully, an individual must be able to perform the essential job functions consistently and to the satisfaction of the employer. Reasonable accommodations may be made for qualified disabled individuals. This job description is not an exhaustive list, as employees may be required to perform duties not specifically designated within this document, at the employer's discretion. The Escambia County School District reserves the right to modify or interpret this job description as needed.*

**FLSA Status:** Exempt  
**Reports to:** Appropriate Supervisor or Designee  
**Supervises:** Appropriate Staff as required  
**Pay Grade:** Professional – 5

APPROVED  
ESCAMBIA COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD  
JUNE 20, 2017  
MALCOLM THOMAS, SUPERINTENDENT  
VERIFIED BY RECORDING SECRETARY

### **JOB SUMMARY**

The purpose of this job is to provide individualized educationally relevant therapy (consultative and/or direct) to facilitate a student's level of function and participation in his/her school environment to ensure a free and appropriate public education to those students who are eligible.

### **ESSENTIAL JOB FUNCTIONS**

- Develops an individual physical therapy program Plan of Care.
- Participates in developing Individual Education Plans (IEPs), goals, and objectives for each student needs as applicable to the educational setting.
- Identifies and selects appropriate materials and equipment for therapy.
- Establishes schedules for therapy sessions.
- Establishes and maintains effective and efficient record keeping procedures.
- Maintains accurate daily records and data collection to document students' progress, including requirements for Medicaid.
- Manages time effectively.
- Manages and orders materials and equipment effectively.
- Establishes and maintains a positive, organized, and safe environment for students.
- Uses technology resources effectively.
- Assists in developing forms for documentation.
- Evaluates students' physical needs relative to the educational setting.
- Presents typed evaluations, interim progress reports, and documentation of services each time a student is seen directly or consultatively.
- Re-evaluates short-term objectives and writes new ones as needed.
- Uses standardized tools and clinical observations to screen, evaluate, and reassess students' needs.
- Implements Plan of Care with specific instructions to students, teachers, other professionals, parents, and other participants on an interdisciplinary team.
- Provides direct physical therapy, to include strengthening exercise, stretching, balance training, gait, mobility training, and alternative positioning.
- Prescribes and adjusts adaptive equipment and instructs classroom staff in safe use.

- Attends medical clinics with or on behalf of students as necessary, or sends progress reports to explain students' status within the school setting.
- Provides for student services as recommended in the IEP.
- Recognizes overt indicators of student distress or abuse and takes appropriate intervention, referral, or reporting action.
- Communicates effectively, orally and in writing, with other professionals, students, parents, and the community.
- Corresponds with sponsoring physicians as appropriate.
- Attends IEP meetings and other student-related conferences as determined necessary.
- Provides families, employees, and other professionals with consultation and instruction in therapy techniques to establish carry-over into daily activities, which ultimately would affect students' performance in the academic setting.
- Consults with teachers, parents, and other IEP committee members to ensure that students' needs are being met.
- Participates in appropriate activities for the continuing improvement of professional knowledge and skills.
- Provides employee in service training as deemed necessary by the Director – Exceptional Student Education.
- Models professional and ethical conduct at all times.
- Performs all professional responsibilities.
- Prepares required reports and maintains all appropriate records.
- Maintains confidentiality of student and other professional information.
- Complies with policies, procedures, and programs.
- Supports School and District goals and priorities.
- Ensures that student growth/achievement is continuous and appropriate for age groups and student program classification.
- Establishes and maintains a positive collaborative relationship with students' families to increase student achievement.
- Performs other duties as assigned.

**MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS**

- Bachelor's Degree in Physical Therapy from an accredited educational institution.
- Possess a Florida licensure to practice Physical Therapy.
- One (1) year of experience, pediatrics experience preferred.
- Qualifications may vary from the above requirements to such a degree as the Superintendent and Board determine is necessary and appropriate to ensure properly qualified personnel in each specialized assignment.

**KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES**

- Requires the ability to display a professional knowledge of the theories, terminology, principles and techniques of physical therapy practices in pediatric, adolescent and young adult growth and development, neurological and orthopedic disabilities, behavioral management and psycho-social aspects of children with cognitive and physical disabilities.
- Requires the ability to consult effectively with parents, students and teachers.
- Requires the ability to organize and prioritize activities.
- Requires the ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing.
- Requires the ability to determine the approach to work using provided guidelines.

- Requires the ability to perform professional-level work dealing with data, people, and technology that relates to administrative, technical, scientific, engineering, accounting, legal, or managerial skills.

**PHYSICAL DEMANDS**

Heavy Work: Exerting up to 100 pounds of force occasionally, and/or up to 50 pounds of force frequently, and/or up to 20 pounds of force as needed to move objects. The work also requires the following physical abilities in order to perform the essential job functions: balancing, climbing, crawling, crouching, feeling, fingering, grasping, handling, hearing, kneeling, lifting, mental acuity, pulling, pushing, reaching, repetitive motion, speaking, standing, stooping, talking, visual acuity, and walking.

**WORKING CONDITIONS**

Employees in this position work in an environment where errors can lead to significant physical or cognitive consequences for themselves or others.

**Date of Board Approval: June 20, 2017, effective July 1, 2017**

**Date of Revision:**