

Speech and Language Pathologist

BASIC FUNCTION:

Assess and provide therapy to individuals (e.g., infants, toddlers, children, and adults) with communicative needs and assist and direct students in developing expressive and receptive speech and language skills.

REPRESENTATIVE DUTIES:

- Serve the language and speech needs of identified individuals with exceptional needs;
- Identify, assess, schedule, plan and implement effective remedial procedures and plans;
- Develop methods to meet the individualized instructional needs of assigned students;
- Assess students through parent interviews, direct observations and interaction with children, and through administration of criterion-referenced or standardized assessment instruments as necessary or appropriate;
- Assess levels of various communication skills, cognitive and social skills, and self-help skills;
- Make referrals for further in-depth assessment as necessary;
- Provide therapy to identified students in a classroom, day care, home environment, and/or clinic;
- Select and implement appropriate treatment plans for individual students;
- Develop group and individual lesson plans;
- Consult with teachers and the parents of eligible students to establish and supervise the implementation of language and speech development instruction;
- Confer with physicians, clinics, service agencies and health care providers to make and receive referrals and exchange information;
- Communicate with clinical and/or school personnel in various departments, programs, and/or sites to coordinate activities, refer students and provide consultation;
- Operate a wide variety of diagnostic and therapeutic equipment including communication systems such as picture systems, voice systems, video players and other equipment;
- Evaluate and document student progress;
- Meet with staff to discuss needs and progress of students;
- Prepare and maintain a variety of records and reports related to assigned activities, including comprehensive assessment, plans, levels of performance, logs and other records;
- Organize, schedule and conduct Individual Family Service Plan meetings as dictated by law
- (currently every six months), as appropriate;
- Coordinate with parents and receiving teachers/agencies the transition of infants into appropriate school settings;
- Participate in Individual Education Plan (IEP) meetings, as appropriate;
- Attend and participate in in service meetings and staff meetings;
- Participate in parent/teacher conferences, as requested;
- Train and provide work direction to assigned staff;
- Utilize established, specialized behavior management techniques;
- Participate in staff development programs;
- Perform related duties as assigned.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:

Any combination of education and experience that would likely provide the knowledge and abilities to perform the required duties. Preferrably a Master of Arts Degree in Speech and Language Pathology from an accredited college or university and at least one (1) year of experience or intern experience as a speech and language therapist in a public school, clinical, or hospital including some experience working with children birth to age 5.

CREDENTIALS, LICENSES, AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS:

- Possess a valid state Credential authorizing language and speech instruction;
- Possess appropriate Licensure to provide speech and language services;
- Possess certification from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (CF or CCC);
- Possess or obtain upon employment a valid driver license;
- Provide proof of automobile insurability.

KNOWLEDGE AND ABILITIES

Knowledge of:

- Current educational curriculum, methods and procedures related to assigned area;
- Assessment and intervention techniques;
- Principles of remediation and rehabilitation;
- Counseling techniques with families of at-risk, *and* special needs students;
- Operation, use and care of equipment used in speech and language therapy;
- Record-keeping techniques;
- Correct English usage, grammar, spelling, punctuation and vocabulary;
- Oral and written communication skills;
- Applicable sections of the State Education Code and other applicable laws;
- District organization, operations, policies and objectives;
- Interpersonal skills using tact, patience, and courtesy.

Ability to:

- Provide professional assessment and therapeutic services;
- Develop and implement appropriate treatment plans;
- Evaluate and document student progress;
- Assure compliance with program guidelines and applicable laws, rules and regulations;
- Plan, administer and assess a variety of skills areas;
- Establish and maintain cooperative and effective working relationships with others;
- Communicate effectively both orally and in writing;
- Maintain records and prepare reports;
- Work independently with little direction;
- Analyze situations accurately and adopt an effective course of action;
- Plan and manage a speech therapy caseload;
- Adapt to periodic heavy workload;
- Maintain regular and reliable attendance.

WORKING CONDITIONS:

Environment:

Office and classroom settings; driving a vehicle to conduct work as assigned by the position.

Physical Requirements:

- Dexterity of hands and fingers to operate various equipment;
- Seeing to read a variety of materials;
- Hearing and speaking to exchange information and make presentations;
- Sitting or standing for extended periods of time;
- Walking, twisting, stooping, crouching, kneeling, bending over, grasping, reaching overhead, pushing, pulling and moving, lifting and/or carrying 0-50 pounds to waist height.

Hazards:

Potential for contact with bodily fluids, blood-borne pathogens and communicable diseases; Driving a vehicle during adverse weather conditions.