

ADAPTIVE EQUIPMENT SPECIALIST

Work in this class involves performing a variety of journey level tasks in the repair and modification of wheelchairs and the installation of upholstered support devices, braces, and other protective and corrective devices for residents in mental retardation institutions. Employees perform assigned work independently and in accordance with the requested needs of occupational therapists, physical therapists or other treatment related staff. Work is reviewed after completion by the supervisor and other treatment staff as applicable.

I. DIFFICULTY OF WORK:

Complexity of Work - Employees are assigned a wide variety of projects requiring a thorough understanding of several trades such as upholstery and carpentry. Work requires some understanding of the special motor support needs of the handicapped.

Intricacy of Work - Support devices and braces must be closely fitted to the patients.

Controls Over Work - Assignments are in the form of general oral or written instructions indicating desired results. New or unusual assignments may be accompanied by more detailed instructions. Priorities are assigned based on when the order is received in the shop and the degree of urgency. Review is usually accomplished through evaluation of the effectiveness of the finished product.

Judgmental Demands - Employees operate within the general diagrams and written instructions provided by the supervisor or requesting party. Within these guidelines, employees diagnose construction problems and establish functional alternatives without destroying the overall purpose and function of the item.

II. RESPONSIBILITY:

Potential - Failure to properly construct items according to plans would lead to discomfort to the resident and some loss of materials and supplies.

Care and Attention - Close measurements must be made when fitting devices to patients and in fabricating devices.

III. PHYSICAL EFFORT:

Intensity of Effort - Work can be generally characterized by walking, standing, stooping, bending, and lifting light loads.

Frequency and Duration - Employee exerts considerable effort only during the modifying and fitting of protective and support devices.

IV. WORK SURROUNDINGS AND HAZARDS:

Worker Surroundings - Employees perform work in relatively good surroundings encounter limited exposure to dust, dirt, or other disagreeable conditions.

Hazardous Conditions - Employees have only infrequent exposure to hazardous conditions. Employees are subject to minor hand/arm injuries while using handtools.

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V. RECRUITMENT STANDARDS:

Knowledges, Skills, and Abilities - Working knowledge of the methods, tools, practices and materials used in the carpentry and upholstery trades. Skill in the use of the tools required. Ability to understand and work from sketches or penciled drawings. Ability to operate the more common types of machine shop or woodworking power equipment. Ability to establish and maintain rapport with a variety of treatment staff members and patients.

Minimum Education and Experience – High school or General Educational Development diploma and two years of experience in the performance of tasks associated with carpentry and/or upholstery; or an equivalent combination of education and experience.