

RECREATIONAL THERAPIST

CLASS CONCEPT

The Recreational Therapist (RT) is assigned to a state hospital, a developmental disability center, a neuro-medical center, or an alcohol and drug abuse treatment center or other state agency. The scope of services provided by the Recreational Therapist includes assessment of client care needs and planning and development of individualized treatment goals, objectives, intervention strategies, and other appropriate documentation as required. Employees integrate treatment plans with intervention strategies to attempt to restore, remediate, or rehabilitate functioning and independence of the client. Reassessment and evaluation are consistently conducted and treatment plans are rewritten in collaboration with the treatment team. If appropriate, discharge plans are developed that include consideration of progress towards or achievement of recreational therapy treatment goals, need for continued recreational treatment or aftercare, support systems, leisure needs, financial resources, adaptive skills, and cultural adaptation. Employees in this class report directly to a Recreational Therapy Supervisor.

RECRUITMENT STANDARDS

Knowledges, Skills and Abilities

Knowledge of human structures, physiology of human structures, mechanics of movement, lifecycle growth and development, psychological functioning, pathology in psychological functioning, cognitive learning and motor learning that contribute to health and human functioning.

Knowledge of recreational therapy theory, principles, techniques, and methods as well as their specific implications and applications to individuals with developmental disabilities and mental illness with an emphasis on restoring, remediation, or rehabilitating physical and/or mental functioning and independence.

Knowledge of co-occurring disorders and their implications for recreational therapy services are necessary.

Ability to accurately administer a variety of assessment tools and to assess clients' current functioning level, develop treatment plans, and evaluate progress, as well as to determine needed services and supports according to the professional standards of recreational therapy is required.

Ability to articulate the philosophy, goals, and strategies of recreational therapy is also required.

Knowledge of adaptive and assistive devices is necessary.

Accurate and thorough record-keeping is required.

Ability to present evaluative reports to interdisciplinary team members, family members, and a variety of professional disciplines is required.

Ability to instruct and guide student interns, subordinate staff members, and other medical and paramedical personnel in recreation therapy methods and techniques is required.

Minimum Training and Experience Requirements

Graduation from a four-year college or university with a degree in recreational therapy or therapeutic recreation, which includes an internship and a license to practice recreational therapy by the North Carolina Board of Recreational Therapy Licensure.

All degrees must be received from appropriately accredited institutions.

Special Considerations

Any credentials or licenses required by a regulatory or accreditation agency/body shall be required in addition to the state's minimum training and experience requirements.

Special Note

This is a generalized representation of positions in this class and is not intended to identify essential functions per the Americans with Disabilities Act. Examples of work are primarily essential functions of the majority of positions, but may not be applicable to all positions.