

## OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ASSISTANT II

### DESCRIPTION OF WORK:

This is skilled, independent Occupational Therapy Assistant work in planning, evaluating, modifying existing and developing new occupational therapy treatment and activity programs, or independently designing and fabricating innovative and complex splints within a specialized unit or agency. These positions are located in the Department of Human Resources, the North Carolina Memorial Hospital, and University System.

Employees work under the general direction of an Occupational Therapist in planning, evaluating, and developing treatment programs to enhance the patients physical, developmental, and psychosocial functioning. Employees perform the initial occupational therapy assessment and evaluation independently and recommend patient placement into occupational therapy programs, develop patient objectives and goals, and schedule patients for activities and treatment. This level is also found in a specialty unit or an agency with responsibility for fabricating splints, restraining devices, and adaptive equipment characterized by a higher degree of design and fabrication of more innovative and complex splints and devices for patients. Work is reviewed by supervision, observation of work, written reports and patient progress.

### EXAMPLES OF DUTIES PERFORMED:

Perform the initial evaluation of patients for treatment through routine measurements for strength, grip, dexterity, coordination, swelling, range of motion, as well as informs therapist of patients treatment goals in the areas of daily living skills, motor-sensory, cognitive, fine/gross motor; and psycho-social functioning.

Recommend treatment modalities and develop new and/or modifies existing goals and objectives to enhance patient functioning.

Independently lead patients in activities of daily living skills, selfcare skills, pre-vocational, socialization, fine/gross motor communication, sensory stimulation and provide appropriate interaction to improve psychosocial functioning and adaptive skills and healing.

Measure patients for the design, adaptation, and modification of specialized occupational therapy devices, and splints requiring considerable knowledge of the disabilities; work independently in area of specialty.

Instruct patients in the proper fit, use, and care of splints and devices.

Provide some training, orientation and demonstration of occupational therapy programs for unit personnel, lower level technicians, volunteers, and students.

Document periodic progress notes and discharge summaries. Provide input in treatment team meetings on progress and/or planning for assigned patients.

Perform related duties as required and assigned by the therapist.

RECRUITMENT STANDARDS:

Knowledges, Skills, and Abilities

Considerable knowledge of occupational therapy principles, techniques, methods, modalities and their proper application in the area(s) assigned.

General knowledge of functional anatomy, physiology, biomechanics, and physical and mental conditions of patients.

Skill in the specific fabrication and use of splints and adaptive devices for population served.

Skill in conducting standard assessments and treatments which are applicable to special area or unit.

Skill in evaluating patient progress through musculature evaluation, goal attainments and other general patient progress.

Skill in writing patient progress notes.

Ability to instruct unit personnel and lower level technicians in occupational therapist treatments.

Ability to work effectively with patients of various ages, developmental and functional abilities, medical conditions, mental competence and physical disabilities.

Minimum Education and Experience

Licensed to practice as an Occupational Therapy Assistant in the State of North Carolina and two years of experience as an occupational therapy assistant; or an equivalent combination of education and experience.