

SENIOR OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY AIDE

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: Under the supervision of an Occupational Therapist, incumbents of this class provide assistance to the professional staff in administering medically prescribed occupational therapy to assist in rehabilitating patients. Assignments of tasks are based on a previous assessment by professional staff of the patients' medical, physical and/or mental limitations. Responsibility also involves monitoring and reporting patient responses, condition and progress during activities. Supervision is not a responsibility of this class. Does related work as required.

EXAMPLES OF WORK: (Illustrative Only)

Carries out and instructs patients in occupational therapy tasks, using arts and crafts and other creative projects, as part of a rehabilitation program designed by professional Occupational Therapy staff;

Confers with Occupational Therapists to discuss the details of the work assignments and to report patient response and progress;

Organizes patients into groups for larger projects involving intersectional activities;

Distributes materials and supplies to patients needed to carry out activities;

Stores equipment and supplies when not in use, and advises professional staff when supplies are needed;

May be required to transport patients safely to various areas of the facility as assigned by professional staff;

May assist Occupational Therapist in adapting or devising equipment or other self-help items to assist patient in achieving objectives;

Maintains therapy area and equipment;

Attends staff conferences, as directed.

REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND ATTRIBUTES: Familiarity with the practice and techniques used in occupational therapy; ability to perform a variety of handicraft and art work; ability to stimulate and maintain patients' interest in projects and activities; ability to get along well with rehabilitative staff and patients; good judgment in dealing with patients; initiative in undertaking assigned work; emotional maturity; physical condition commensurate with the requirements of the position.

MINIMUM ACCEPTABLE TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE: Either (a) High school or equivalency diploma and one year experience in providing rehabilitative therapies such as physical or occupational therapy functions; or (b) five years of patient care experience, one year of which involved the specialized experience in (a) above; or (c) a satisfactory equivalent combination of the foregoing training and experience.